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SERIALS DIVISION

RETURN OF THE DINOSAURS

THE LOST WORLD JURASSIC PARK

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NOT QUITE HOME AND DRY

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BEST FOR JOBS

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2-SECTION APPOINTMENTS

Tory ideas remodelled by Labour

Rebates plan for top-up pensions

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government will today announce a shake-up of pension provision, including a radical plan to give national insurance rebates to millions of people if they join flexible new personal schemes.

The centrepiece of the proposals will be chance for everyone to hold a second "stakeholder" pension to top up their basic state pension.

The National Insurance rebates, which may be worth about £10 a week, will go to those who join cheap-to-administer schemes which will be organised so that they can be easily transferred from one employer to another.

John Denham, the Social Security Minister, will today launch a comprehensive review of provision for the over 60s in a tacit admission that the state alone can no longer cover provision for the elderly.

The basic state pension will remain, rising in line with inflation, but the Government will not be able to renew its promises of the 1980s that it would keep increases in line with earnings. Labour has also dropped its plan to provide a minimum guaranteed pension, higher than the basic state pension, for poorer people.

The key new proposal to be announced today is the plan for a second pension to complement the basic state pension — an idea that bears similarities to the Conservatives' Basic Pension Plus idea for reforming the system, which was derided by Tony Blair before the election.

Under Labour's plans, everyone who does not have their own occupational scheme will be encouraged to take out a personal pension. That could be run by a variety of different groups including mutual societies, co-operative societies, employers or groups of employers.

SERPS, the state earnings related pension scheme, will continue, at least in the short term. But those who opt out of the scheme will be given national insurance rebates which can be used to build up private provision.

Under Peter Lilley's plans for the Conservatives, people in their early twenties and below would have been given £9 a week rebates from their National Insurance contributions to put into their new pension funds. Although had intended to phase out SERPS, the Tories would have topped up each person's fund by 5 per cent of earnings.

The start up cost of that scheme was estimated at £160 million a year, rising to £7 billion by 2040. But Mr Lilley said that it would save £40 billion in the longer term.

Social security sources said yesterday that the aim of the Government's plan was to provide value-for-money, flexible and secure pension provision. One way of achieving that might be to encourage group pensions that could be adopted by a number of employers within an industry, such as car manufacturing or construction. The aim would be both to secure cheaper deals and to enable employees to transfer their scheme to another company.

At present many people are believed to be deterred from taking out private provision because schemes are too expensive — charges can eat up a quarter of the value of the pension or more. But the Government is expected to limit the fees that firms will be able to charge.

The review will also look at the role of the state in approving second pensions, given the misselling scandal of the 1980s in which millions of people were advised to join unsuitable schemes and for which most are still awaiting compensation. Helen Liddell, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury has already warned the industry to "shape up", and one option being floated is to exclude from the new stakeholder scheme any pension firms that fail to settle claims by next year.

Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary is also keen to examine ways of ensuring that all of the 700,000 pensioners eligible for income support take up their entitlement. Many old people are put off by the stigma of going to benefit offices to claim their extra cash. Ms Harman has suggested that these pensioners should be indentified and an alternative method of payment found.

The review team to be announced by Mr Denham is expected to include a number of outsiders as well as government representatives. Social security sources said that the plans would also go out to wide consultation.

SIMON SCHLUTER

Jonathan Aitken heading for home surrounded by photographers and reporters during his brief foray yesterday back into the public eye

Aitken comeback ends with hasty retreat

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

AFTER a period of resting in America, Jonathan Aitken made his comeback on the public stage yesterday. He had promised an intriguing solo performance on College Green. What his 100-strong audience got was not even Whitehall farce.

Mr Aitken, who is a bit down on his luck at the moment, had done his own pre-publicity. Earlier this week the fax machine in *The Times* newsroom whirred and out came a press release from Mr Aitken himself.

Writing in the third person, he said: "Jonathan Aitken is aware, from the large numbers of photographers stationed outside his home, that some media organisations are currently anxious to take pictures of him. To make life easier for all concerned, Mr Aitken is letting it be known that he will be walking across College Green, Westminster, at 5pm on Wednesday, July 16. At this brief photo opportunity Mr Aitken will say nothing beyond the terms of the statement issued today."

Clearly Mr Aitken had learnt something from his scrapping with the press. He had learnt that if you do something really odd — and making an announcment that you are going to hang around College Green saying nothing is definitely odd — you will have the full attention of the press.

At 5pm yesterday there were at least 100 photographers, television cameramen and reporters milling around on the green waiting for the show to begin.

The problem started when he didn't arrive, Michael Jackson style, from the skies. As Mr Aitken was spotted approaching the green 50 yards away, a photographer (with an 8ft ladder) made his move towards him and a stampede followed.

If Mr Aitken or any of those bruised by yesterday's skirmish refer to it, when trying to impress their grandchildren, as the Battle of College Green, they will be exaggerating a little. Like many engagements before it, this battle was over quickly and did not actually take place at the place after which it was named. Mr Aitken never actually made it to College Green. Surrounded within seconds by the pack, with lenses telescoping up his nostrils, Mr Aitken got himself trapped between a transit van and a wall.

He squeezed clear but progress towards the patch of grass was slow. Mr Aitken looked rather taken aback by the turnout but not in the happy way that a pop star might be. Perhaps not for the first time in the past few weeks, Mr Aitken may have been wondering if he had done quite the right thing.

It was unfortunate that he got swamped by photographers but one was tempted to ask: what had he expected ? So we asked. But Mr Aitken, as he had promised, was doing a dumb show.

Eventually, after refusing to answer any questions and inching forward through the pack he declared, with a touch of the *prima donna*: "I don't think we are going to get to College Green. If this is the way you are going to behave, I am going back." And he did. His house is just around a couple of corners from the green. For the next ten minutes he shuffled towards home.

On Little College Street Michael Brunson of ITN fell backwards over the kerb. "I'm sorry Michael. It's not my fault," Mr Aitken said.

Down Great Peter Street: "What do you think of the accusations in the Commons today that you committed perjury, Mr Aitken?"

Finally, into the home strait of Lord North Street. "Why did you do this, Mr Aitken?" And at last he answered: "I arranged it to be helpful to you," he said.

Shares hit a record high

Shares rose to a record high yesterday as unemployment fell to its lowest level for seven years.

The FTSE 100 index of leading shares came within a whisker of rising above 5,000 for the first time, peaking at 4991.8 before slipping in late trading to close at 4964.2, a rise of 64.9 points on the day.

The downward trend in unemployment continued in June as the number of people out of work fell for the sixteenth month to reach the lowest level since April 1990.

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Riddle of Versace's contact with gay killer 'years ago'

FROM TOM RHODES IN SOUTH BEACH, MIAMI

GIANNI VERSACE, the Italian fashion designer, may have met his alleged killer years ago, it was disclosed last night.

Although the FBI and police denied any previous contact between Versace, 50, and Andrew Cunanan, 27, the serial killer believed to be responsible for his murder, it was reported that the two may have had a backstage encounter at the San Francisco Opera where the designer said: "I remember you."

Maureen Orth, who has been researching an article on Mr Cunanan for the September issue of *Vanity Fair*, said she had spoken to friends who recalled the meeting on the West Coast some years ago. She did not think the two had been lovers.

The latest disclosure came as federal agents and state police launched a nationwide hunt for Mr Cunanan, a gay prostitute who is HIV positive. He is already charged with one murder in Minnesota and is thought to be responsible for four others, including that of Versace, who was shot outside his ocean-front mansion on Miami's South Beach.

Police were last night targeting gay groups and Aids hotlines for any information that might lead to his arrest. A police hotline received more than 100 calls and a group of 400 FBI agents trawled the streets of South Florida.

Authorities were checking airports, railway stations and ports for any sign of the missing man whom one officer described as a "chameleon of disguise". Thousands of posters, bearing two pictures of the alleged killer, have been circulated and police have issued an alert to Florida's gay community.

Mr Cunanan was said by the FBI to have been sighted in the neighbouring community of West Palm Beach only two weeks before. A red Chevrolet pick-up truck, believed to have been stolen by Mr Cunanan from the scene of a New Jersey murder in May, was discovered close to the Versace palazzo.

Experts believe that Mr Cunanan had become a "spree killer", who may have wanted to wreak revenge after his contracted the Aids virus. "He could be set off by any emotional uprising," said Robert Ressler, a former FBI behavioural scientist. "Health problems, such as a discovery that the individual found out he had Aids, could send him into a frenzy."

Donatella Versace, the dead man's sister, and Santo, his brother, arrived by private jet from Milan yesterday to arrange for the funeral.

Into the darkness, page 13
Rachel Campbell-Johnston, page 18
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Brown to reopen debate on EMU

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND CHARLES BREMNER

GORDON BROWN will launch a national debate on European economic and monetary union today in a move that will revive the fiercest political controversy of the past five years.

The Chancellor believes that Britain cannot afford not to weigh up the benefits and pitfalls of membership — even though it is unlikely to join in the first wave in 1999. And to get the debate going, he is to issue a Treasury guide for business on the practical implications of joining or staying out, and to set up a group to give business and public sector organisations advice about EMU.

He is also to announce publication of a 22-page report by Lord Currie, professor of economics at the London Business School, to promote "better informed and more reasoned discussion".

Eurosceptics will claim that the move is a sign that ministers are moving towards the single currency, but Mr Brown will tell the Royal Institute of International Affairs that the Government is concerned to have a serious debate "because whether Britain is in or out, it will have prfound implications for British business and the British economy". There should be informed discussion "about where Britain's national interests lie".

The Chancellor's aides deny that his speech will mark any change in the Government's stance on the single currency. Like John Major and Kenneth Clarke before him, Mr Brown believes that Britain cannot afford to stay out of the EU negotiations and he accepts that formidable obstacles remain to British membership in 1999.

Mr Brown, who has been one of the Cabinet's leading

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Pensioner suffered 20-year power cut

BY PAUL WILKINSON

AN 86-year-old woman has spent 20 years without electricity after thinking her supply was cut off because she used too little power.

She has used candles and oil lamps for lighting and gone without television and other appliances.

Yesterday the Sheffield woman, who was too embarrassed 20 years ago to query her disconnection, was still too shy to be identified. But she told Yorkshire Electricity: "My husband and I came home from shopping one day and some electricity board workers were digging outside. We have not had any electricity since. I remember a letter saying I didn't use much electricity so we thought we had been cut off because we weren't very good customers.

"Over the years we just got used to it and cooked by gas. Obviously, we never knew what it was to have television, a fridge, or any modern gadgets."

It was earlier this year when people in her street alerted Yorkshire Electricity. They had assumed that the old lady was an eccentric and preferred a life without electricity. But after her husband died and she became more frail, they decided she needed some 20th century comforts.

The company checked its records and could find no indication of non-payment. Yesterday a spokeswoman said: "It appears the supply to the house was accidently cut off in the Seventies. At that time, when bills were sent out, the words 'Low user' were printed on them. This old lady obviously thought we did not regard her as a good customer and believed we had cut off her supply because her bills were too low.

"As soon as we were alerted of her plight, we sent an electrician to her home, but because she had been without electricity for so long, her home needed rewiring before we could reconnect the supply."

The work was carried out free of charge.

PENSIONER WITHOUT ELECTRICITY FOR 20 YEARS
PUGH

"She'll think William Hague's changed a bit since she last saw him"

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Gritty Frank rides a one-way ticket to Darwinian dead-end

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Alongside chips with mayonnaise, an unexpected pleasure of Belgium as a tourist destination is Antwerp Zoo. Situated near the station in a drizzly region of Flanders, this boasts one of the world's finest collections of Central African fauna. At its centre is a small herd of okapi.

The okapi is growing rare. With the markings of a faded zebra, the body of a stunted giraffe and the long tongue of an anteater, the beast is perfectly adapted to lick termites off high branches in the Congo rainforest. Sadly it is not equipped for much else. Its coat no camouflage outside the sun-dappled forest floor, and hunted almost to extinction by pygmies, the okapi is — frankly — on a one-way ticket to nowhere.

Except Antwerp. Here history's last okapi huddle in the Belgian mist, an expression of infinite pathos betraying some half-sensed animal intimation that they are at a Darwinian dead-end.

They are okapi and they are not ashamed. They could and would not be anything else. But they know that being an okapi is no longer where it's at, and that soon there may be no okapi at all. Railway trains shunt and whistle in the distance, mayonnaise-flecked school parties giggle and goggle through the wire, and the okapi of Antwerp peer into the drizzle, remember a happier epoch when there were trees and sunshine and termites, and brace themselves for extinction.

Watching Frank Dobson at the Commons yesterday, I was carried mentally to Antwerp Zoo. The Secretary of State for Health is a socialist and he is not ashamed. He cannot and would not be anything else. But he knows that being a socialist is not where it's at in Tony Blair's new Labour Cabinet, and that soon there may be no socialists at all.

Hunted almost to extinction by the tabloid newspapers, his ideological markings no longer any camouflage, even in Camden, he knows his career is on a one-way ticket to nowhere.

Tories giggle and journalists goggle and Mr Dobson shakes his beard and rises at the dispatch box, his gritty gaze betraying some half-sensed animal intimation that he and his kind are at a Darwinian dead-end.

He remembers a happier epoch when there was Clause 4 and the GLC, and the red flag flew over Camden Town Hall ... And braces himself for extinction. But not quite yet.

Dobson knows the knives are out for him but he is damned if he is going to give the Cabinet butchers the excuse to sack him. Yesterday he had come to the Commons to explain his plans to unpick the "two-tier" system by which GP fundholders secure advantages for their patients. Mr Dobson had not, however, come to abolish GP fundholding itself. But of course "old" Labour was against GP fundholding altogether. He could tell from the cheers and jeers behind him that many Labour backbenchers still hold that view, and believe he shares it.

You could sense from Dobson's body language that he is anything but an enthusiast for fundholding. He described Tory NHS reforms as having been based "largely on the advice of a heroin addict and fraudster". Backbenchers begged him not to stop here, but to abolish fundholding completely. But he dared not encourage them. They were off-message — and Peter Mandelson wields a mean blowpipe. Mr Dobson stuck doggedly to his brief. While there were termites left, even in this barren new Labour terrain, he would lick them. And when the pygmies come for him, as he knows they will, he will go with dignity into extinction.

☐ *A collection of Matthew Parris's Parliamentary Sketches,* I Couldn't Possibly Comment, *is published by Robson Books.*

Lab tests prove BSE can pass to human tissue

By Nick Nuttall, technology correspondent

BSE can be transmitted to humans beings, British scientists have found. The research shows that infectious proteins, or prions, from contaminated beef can, in laboratory tests, transmit to human tissue to trigger brain infections. The findings may also have implications for lamb infected with scrapie.

The researchers have found that the proteins involved with scrapie can also infect human proteins. James Hope, who led the research at the Institute for Animal Health in Newbury, Berkshire, said yesterday: "We have shown that change in a particular human protein can be induced by the bovine infectious agent."

However, he said the findings should be treated cautiously. "To extrapolate this to say that bovine spongiform encephalopathy has been, or is being, transmitted to humans discounts a lot of other factors that are involved in cross-species transmission," he said.

The scientists, whose work has been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and is published in *Nature*, also found that scrapie can be transmitted to humans to trigger a change in proteins. However, scrapie can be traced back 200 years, yet there is no evidence that people eating lamb have been affected by scrapie. The scientists found that scrapie and BSE were equally good at infecting human proteins. "So you might actually infer that since the sheep and the bovine material convert the human ones at similar efficiency, BSE is not a risk factor for the disease. That would be the positive message," said Dr Hope, who is funded by the government's Biological and Biotechnological Sciences Research Council.

A more pessimistic conclusion is that scrapie-infected lamb is a threat to humans and should be treated in a similar way to beef. "It really depends on whether you wear rose-tinted or doom-laden glasses," Dr Hope said. He pointed out that outside the laboratory a multitude of additional factors — such as the dose, strain, and route of infection — would affect transmission.

Beef infected with BSE is thought to have triggered a new strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, which strikes people at a much younger age than the normal version, causing symptoms of dementia leading to death. The Department of Health has recorded 19 confirmed and probable cases of "new variant" CJD. The patients are thought to have become infected in the late 1980s, before strict controls came in to stop BSE-infected beef entering the human food chain.

Because of the disease's long incubation period, experts do not know if this is just the start of an epidemic that may kill thousands of people. Whether there is a serious epidemic will depend largely on how easily BSE can jump the species barrier and infect humans.

Brain diseases such as BSE, scrapie and CJD are thought to be caused by alterations to the molecular structure of proteins called prions. Normally harmless prions become defective, and cause other prions with which they come into contact to alter in the same way, thus setting up a chain reaction of infection.

Dr Hope and his team showed that prion proteins from both BSE and scrapie-infected animal brains were able to convert human prion proteins into the dangerous form. But the efficiency of this reaction was much lower than the conversion of human prion protein by the defective prion associated with "normal" CJD.

Dr Hope said: "We have shown that there is a molecular barrier between cows and humans, but it's not an absolute barrier. It's just a question of efficiency."

Bernadette Martin: "She was such a special girl"

Let her be the last victim, says Ulster father

By Nicholas Watt, chief Ireland correspondent

THE father of a Roman Catholic girl shot dead by a loyalist gunman issued an impassioned plea yesterday to republicans not to avenge her. Laurence Martin wept as he voiced the hope that Bernadette, 18, would be the last victim of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland.

Speaking at the family home in Craigavon, Co Armagh, he said: "We do not want any repercussions or people claiming reprisals. If her death is the last death in this country, then maybe it is worth something and we can live in peace."

The RUC said yesterday that it was working on the premise that the killing in the early hours of Monday morning was sectarian. Miss Martin was shot four times in the head at close range as she lay asleep at the house of her Protestant boyfriend in the staunchly loyalist village of Aghalee, Co Antrim.

The gunman entered through an unlocked back door about 4am on Monday. Miss Martin died later that day in hospital in Belfast. Two men were questioned by police yesterday.

The victim's father said that he could not understand why anyone would murder his daughter. Mr Martin said: "She was such a special girl, we loved her so very much, it is hard to believe she really is gone. Whoever did that, I have no feelings for them. I can forgive them, but God might never forgive them."

Mr Martin's wife, Margaret, was so devastated by the killing that she had not moved from her daughter's coffin since it arrived at the family home late on Monday night. Bernadette's boyfriend, Gordon Greene, is also devastated.

Mr Martin said: "We have spoken to him about what happened, but nobody is really making much sense at the minute. It's a hard time for everybody."

A stream of friends and relatives yesterday visited the Martins' house, on a mixed housing estate in the new town of Craigavon, to offer condolences. The Martins are a devout Catholic family, but the wellwishers included many of Bernadette's Protestant friends from the food factory where she met her boyfriend.

Rodney McCaffrey, the personnel manager at Avondale Foods, said people were in a "trance-like state". He added: "She was a very beautiful young girl, a very bubbly, popular young girl, very outgoing, a great lover of life."

The murder was initially thought to have been committed by the Loyalist Volunteer Force, a new hardline terrorist group founded by renegade members of the Ulster Volunteer Force. However, the LVF issued a coded statement last night denying responsibility.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Alcopop sales to be curbed

Curbs on the sale of alcopops will be announced today after growing concern about the scale of under-age drinking. The Government's action follows the drinks industry's strengthening of its code of practice to restrict the promotion and packaging of drinks that appeal to children. Shops and pubs will be urged to boycott any alcopop that is in breach of the strengthened code, which will cover all drinks over 0.5 per cent alcohol and will regulate colour, consistency and labelling. A Government source said it was the industry's last chance to make self-regulation work.

Contest for new Scots assembly

The first Scottish Parliament in 300 years is to be the subject of an international architectural competition, the Scottish secretary Donald Dewar announced yesterday. The new Parliament building will be in Edinburgh and several sites are being considered, including a number of greenfield locations. The competition will be launched later in the year, with a winner announced early in 1998.

Teachers setting more homework

Teachers are responding to government initiatives and already setting more homework and raising their expectations of pupils, David Blunkett said yesterday. Inspections had found that primary schools in particular were making renewed attempts to raise standards, the Education and Employment Secretary told the annual conference of local authority leaders in Bristol.

Heart-attack man sues for stress

In a test case that could establish an employer's legal liability for stress-related illness, the manager of a shop in Taunton, Somerset, is suing his former employers claiming overwork brought on two heart attacks in nine months. Aidan Downing, 47, has been awarded legal aid to pursue his claim for £250,000 from the convenience store chain after the heart attacks left him unable to work.

Lord Chancellor plans open house

The Lord Chancellor wants to make his official residence available for public tours if a £650,000 refurbishment is approved. Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, has been criticised by Tory MPs over the proposed work although it is part of a conservation programme at the Palace of Westminister. His department said that the tours would appeal to people with a "genuine interest in historic buildings and art".

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JENNERS OF EDINBURGH.

Unionists walk out of talks over disarmament plans

By Nicholas Watt, chief Ireland correspondent

UNIONISTS walked out of talks on the future of Northern Ireland at Stormont yesterday in protest at Government plans for disarming terrorists.

The Democratic Unionists and the small United Kingdom Unionist Party left when a Northern Ireland Office minister refused to answer questions about an Anglo-Irish paper on disarmament. David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, also left. He said, however, that he had not joined the walkout because he still hoped to amend Anglo-Irish plans on weapons.

Mr Trimble immediately telephoned Downing Street to ask for an early meeting with Tony Blair to demand that firm guarantees are written into the Anglo-Irish paper to ensure that terrorists disarm.

The Unionists left after Paul Murphy, the Political Development Minister, read aloud an Anglo-Irish paper which clarified a document on disarming terrorists agreed last month by London and Dublin. Mr Murphy declined to answer a question from the Democratic Unionists because he said that the paper had clarified the thinking of the two Governments and he did not have time to consult his Irish colleagues.

Peter Robinson, the deputy leader of the Democratic Unionists, who is firmly opposed to the Anglo-Irish plans, waled out in protest. The MP for East Belfast accused the Government of refusing to answer his question because the Anglo-Irish paper had been cleared with Sinn Fein. The DUP rejects the Anglo-Irish paper because London and Dublin have agreed that Sinn Fein will be able to join substantive talks simply on the basis of an IRA ceasefire. The two Governments have said that the IRA would not have to begin decommissioning until progress has been made in the negotiations.

Trimble: sought early meeting with Tony Blair

The Ulster Unionists have a more moderate position. Mr Trimble says decommissioning must begin "at the commencement" of the substantive talks. This means that as soon as Sinn Fein entered the talks, the IRA would have to start decommissioning.

All the parties who walked out yesterday will return next Wednesday to vote on the Anglo-Irish paper. The DUP and the United Kingdom Unionists will vote against the paper. This will be a setback, but the talks will not collapse unless the UUP rejects the paper. Ministers will be hoping that Mr Trimble's moderate stance indicates that he will accept the Anglo-Irish plan, although they accept that he needs guarantees that disarmament will take place.

Probation and jail services may merge

By Richard Ford, home correspondent

THE Probation Service could lose its independence in a merger with the Prison Service under a review of its operation ordered yesterday.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, began moves towards a shake-up of the criminal justice system after growing unhappiness at the Home Office about the record of the Probation Service.

His announcement came only two weeks after the Home Office infuriated the Probation Service by publishing figures showing that convicted criminals under the supervision of probation officers were being charged with murder at the rate of one a week.

The review, to be completed by December, will consider all options for reform including a merger with the Prison Service to create a Department of Corrections. One example being looked at is Sweden, which has a National Prisons and Probation Agency.

Joyce Quin, the Prisons and Probation Minister, is to visit Sweden shortly to study the system. She will also see how widespread tagging of offenders has allowed the country to cut its jail population and start closing some jails.

In a written Commons answer, Mr Straw said the Government would look at ways in which the better integration of the two services could improve their performance and effectiveness and increase public confidence.

Debate on EMU

Continued from page 1

suporters of the principle of the single currency, has discussed his speech with Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and other ministers say that, even privately, he is not arguing the case for entry at present.

But he clearly wants to use the EMU discussions in Europe to push the case for wider economic reform and he wants Britain to take a leading role in achieving that.

The Chancellor's move on EMU comes as Europe confronts the need for drastic changes in the way it is run with the decision to begin the process to admit Cyprus and five former communist countries into the EU.

Britain is one of the most enthusiastic supporters of the enlargement of the Community and Mr Cook said yesterday that it was "a historic opportunity to enhance security and prosperity throughout Europe". Britain takes over the rotating EU presidency in January in time to lead the opening of negotiations with Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovenia Estonia, and Cyprus.

The Commission's choice of the five countries must first be endorsed by EU leaders at a December summit in Luxembourg.

The expansion will be accompanied by radical spending reforms to absorb the cost of taking in the five relatively poor former Eastern bloc countries.

Britain will use its presidency in the first half of next year to push ahead with proposals to reform the Common Agricultural Policy, which takes nearly half the current EU budget.

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dead-end

NEWS IN BRIEF

Alcopop sales to be curbed

e on EMU

Women tried to seduce me, says professor

An academic accused of indecent assault claims he is the victim of a sexual power ploy, reports **Lin Jenkins**

A PHILOSOPHY professor told police that a student did a mock striptease and kissed her friend in front of him in a calculated attempt to seduce him, a court was told yesterday.

The pair, having failed in their attempt to "humiliate, seduce, or set him up", decided to concoct a story that he had indecently assaulted them, Reading Crown Court was told.

John Cottingham, 54, claimed in police interviews that he was the victim of a sexual "power ploy", when the students, aged 21 and 23, invited themselves to his study after a garden party last July. In a taped interview played to the jury in which he denies indecent assault, he said: "They were trying to get a kick out of trying to seduce or entice a respected professor."

Professor Cottingham, head of philosophy at Reading University and a leading authority on Descartes, denied the students' claims that he had discussed the Marquis de Sade or mentioned whips and canes, or the possibility that the pair were lesbians. "We spoke about my Oxford education and discussed Descartes," he told police. Nor had he fondled the breasts of both of them at the same time. "That is completely untrue. The idea that I could somehow simultaneously assault two grown women against their wills is absolutely ridiculous."

He told police that after 25 years' teaching at the university, he was sufficiently aware of the possible consequences not to allow young women into his room. But when the pair asked at the garden party if they could see his books, he consented. "Since there were two of them, obviously any possibility of impropriety simply did not enter my mind."

As he tidied his paperwork, he turned round to find one had removed her tights. "I obviously registered astonishment, and she looked at me with a very knowing, slightly mocking expression, as if she was giving some sort of — I don't know — challenge or come-on of some kind."

He said she stood up, turned to her friend, and said, "We have had hundreds of men, haven't we?" and her friend concurred. "She did a kind of mock striptease or a vamp, if you like. She pulled down the straps of her dress and took off her bra. Then she went up to the other girl, and sort of hugged her, and actually kissed her, and said, 'We do everything together, don't we?'"

At that point, he said, he was thinking that they were disturbed, or suffering from personal problems — possibly stemming from their complicated relationship. Another possibility was that their actions were a power ploy to seduce him, an eminent professor. "The latter seemed to me the most likely explanation for this behaviour," he said.

"I said quite firmly, 'I'm sorry, I don't think this is appropriate. I need to go home.'" They then left giggling and whispering that they needed to go to the lavatory. He was expecting them back to collect their things, but five minutes later a security porter arrived.

Professor Cottingham said he was happily married with a 20-year-old son at university and a 17-year-old daughter at school. That evening, he had three drinks, and was not drunk. "In hindsight, I made an error of judgment," he said. "It is a complete pack of lies, and that is very distressing and very damaging, and completely untrue."

They had done it "to humiliate, seduce, and set me up in some way". Their likely aim had been to test him, or put him in a difficult situation. "Having failed to do that, they may have been alarmed themselves that they would get into trouble, and therefore decided to make a fuss," he said.

The hearing continues today.

Eiffel Tower shut by the height of bad manners

From Ben Macintyre in Paris

THOUSANDS of tourists were turned away from the Eiffel Tower yesterday when employees went on strike over the sacking of an official tour guide after a violent altercation with a holidaymaker suffering from vertigo.

Christine Harvey, a best-selling American writer who runs a marketing company in West Drayton, west London, claimed she and her friend, Hilde Bartlett, were "physically abused" by a rude and aggressive employee at the Paris landmark on June 17.

Mrs Harvey had become scared on the way to the second level, which is 150 metres high. She had tried to get out of the lift as the doors were about to close and asked the guide to let them stay on the first level. The 60-year-old tower worker, who is specifically employed to welcome visitors, had refused and then allegedly berated and manhandled the women.

"When we tried to ask him about staying on the first level, he physically grabbed us by the shoulders and shoved us a distance of one metre while shouting at us," Mrs Harvey wrote in a letter of complaint to the director of the tower when she returned, shaken, to the Concorde-Lafayette Hotel.

The tower management launched an investigation into the incident and, after obtaining further evidence from eyewitnesses, sacked the employee on Tuesday. The unnamed man, who has worked at the tower for 13 years, was given two months' pay and an additional sum to "take into account his personal situation".

His fellow workers promptly held a meeting to discuss the sacking and yesterday more than 50 of the tower's 180 employees went on strike, preventing access to the tower. The strikers claimed the guide had been the victim of unfair dismissal and insisted the incident had been exaggerated.

Hugues de Bailliencourt, assistant secretary-general of the New Eiffel Tower Company, a private concern that manages the tower, said yesterday: "This was a very serious act by this employee. It was quite unacceptable. There are limits. Does someone have to commit a strangulation before they can be sacked? It was entirely up to Mrs Harvey if she wanted to stay on the first level. That was her choice."

Mrs Harvey has written five books on international business which have been translated into 20 languages. The latest, *Secrets of World's top Sales Performers*, sold 150,000 copies in America. Speaking from a hotel room in Los Angeles she declined to comment on the incident, saying: "It is all in the letters I wrote to the Eiffel Tower management."

Yesterday, unhappy tourists milled around beneath the tower as the boutiques selling souvenirs did a roaring trade. "It's a disaster," said Anne Wilkes, a teacher from Holly Lodge High School in Sandwell, near Birmingham. Miss Wilkes was accompanying 48 children from the school, who were left sweltering in the midday heat as she tried (and failed) to obtain an on-the-spot refund for pre-paid tickets to the tower. "They're terribly disappointed. This was going to be the climax of the holiday," Miss Wilkes said.

MICHAEL LIPCHITZ/AP

Tourists had to make do with a snack in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower yesterday

Homeless may beg for questions as tourist guides

By Simon de Bruxelles

BEGGARS who have been accused of blighting the centre of Bath could soon be employed to help visitors to find their way around it. The city's environmental task force wants to transform six homeless people into "streetwise" guides, giving them each a salary, a uniform, a mobile phone and a comb.

Their salaries of £10,000 to £14,000 would be met from the Welfare to Work programme under the plan to be considered tomorrow by officials and Labour members of the city's hung council. Dozens of beggars are drawn to Bath each year by its 4.5 million tourists, and some beggars are already rumoured to be making up to £100 a day.

Del Herod, leader of the Labour group on the newly-formed Bath and North East Somerset Council, said of the plan: "The jobless and homeless are suited to this job for a number of reasons. They are available, and many of them have a quite detailed knowledge of the city.

"They could direct people to the best places in which to sit out in the sun, and give advice about the best nightclubs. They would be more switched on than the more traditional guides."

A spokesman for the environmental task force promised that recruits would, after rehabilitation and training, be required to "conform to the highest possible standard of presentation" with "clean, combed hair". Approaches are being made to possible partners from private enterprise, and it is hoped the guides will be at work by Christmas.

However, Malcolm Hanney, leader of the council's Conservative group, said: "It is nonsensical to think this could be running by Christmas. It seems to me to be a half-baked idea." Graham Iles, president of Bath's Chamber of Commerce, said: "While the underlying idea is highly commendable, I have serious reservations as to how realistic it is."

Change of tune: a busker in Bath

Field sports parents halt school visit

By Simon de Bruxelles

A VISIT to a deer sanctuary by a group of primary school children has been cancelled after objections from parents who support field sports.

Some parents of pupils at Dulverton First School, on Exmoor, refused to allow their children on the trip to the 225-acre deer reserve run by the League Against Cruel Sports. A letter about the outing for 61 five to seven-year-olds arrived last Thursday as some parents were at the Hyde Park rally to protest at government plans to ban field sports.

Charles Pope, head teacher of the 115-pupil school, said: "Many objected and indicated they would withdraw their children for the day. To maintain the school's impartiality in this issue we decided to change the venue. We regret that sensitive political issues have been introduced into a school event with an educational purpose." The pupils went instead on nature walks.

Graham Sirl, of the league, said: "The children are not brought into our offices or shown the gory photographs of hunting or bombarded with propaganda. They go straight to the sanctuary to see the deer and visit the wildlife area. We do not promote the league, just the wildlife."

Mal Treharne, of the British Field Sports Society, said: "The League Against Cruel Sports is a political organisation and delivers a political message. I can well understand parents returning from the magnificent rally in London and not wanting their children to visit."

Toast was premature for molester GP

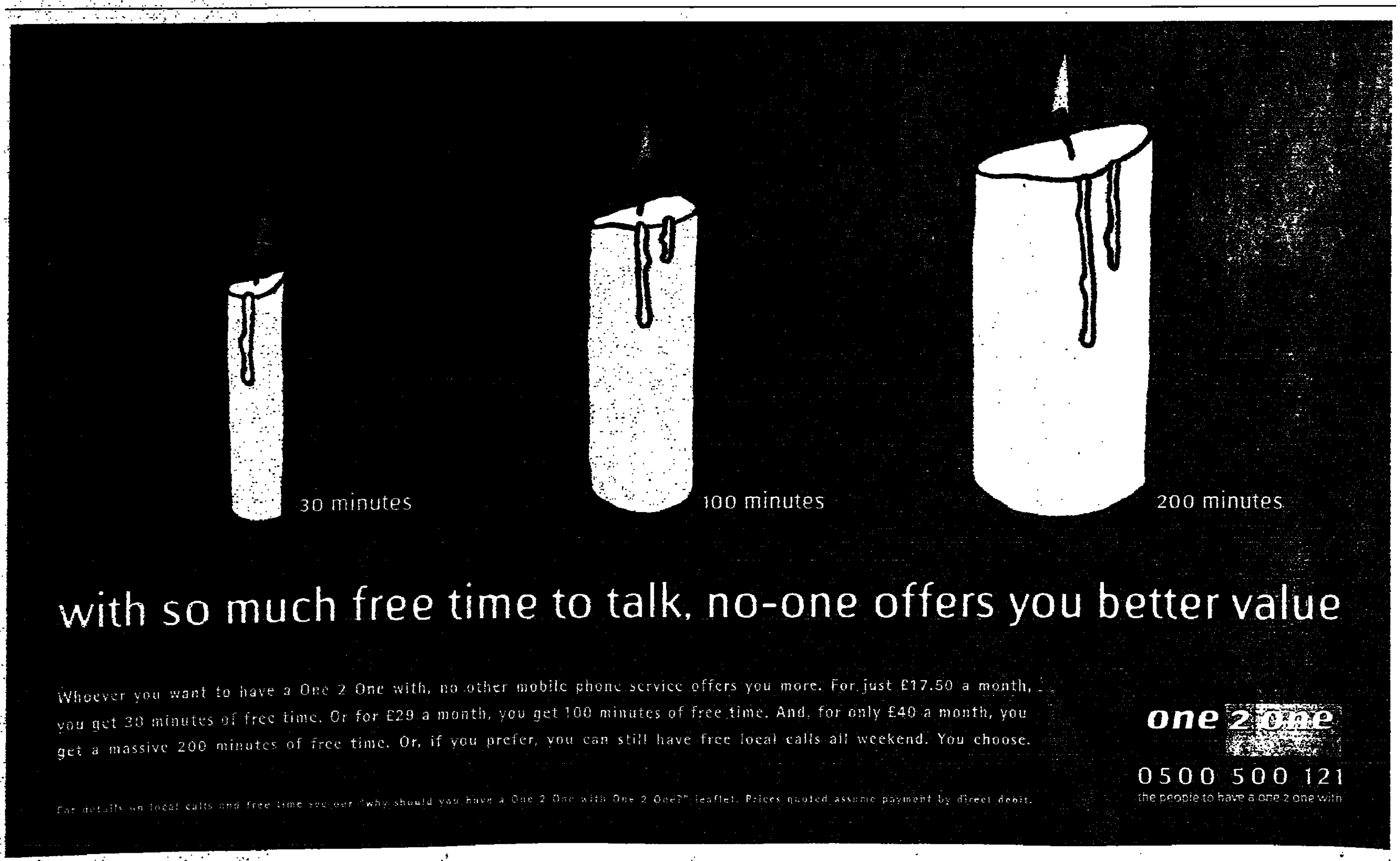
NEWSPAPER photographs of a family doctor raising a glass of champagne to toast being cleared of sex charges prompted other patients to complain. Yesterday Reginald Myint was jailed for nine months for indecently assaulting one of them.

Five women patients who felt that they, too, had been assaulted by Mynit at his practice in Stockport complained to police. All claimed that they were molested by Myint, 54, during intimate examinations carried out between 1978 and 1987. Last February Myint was convicted of indecent assault of one, cleared of charges against a second but had to be retried on allegations made by a third woman.

Yesterday at Minshull Street Crown Court, Manchester, the retrial jury — who were not told of the other conviction — acquitted Myint of the last charge. They were asked to leave the court shortly before Judge Jonathan Geake sentenced the doctor to nine months' imprisonment for indecently assaulting a woman now aged 50. Myint now faces being struck off.

Police began investigating Myint in March 1994 when two of his women patients came forward to claim that he had indecently assaulted them.

The Crown Prosecution Service decided not to press charges, but Myint was brought before a disciplinary hearing of the General Medical Council in January 1995 where he was cleared of serious professional misconduct.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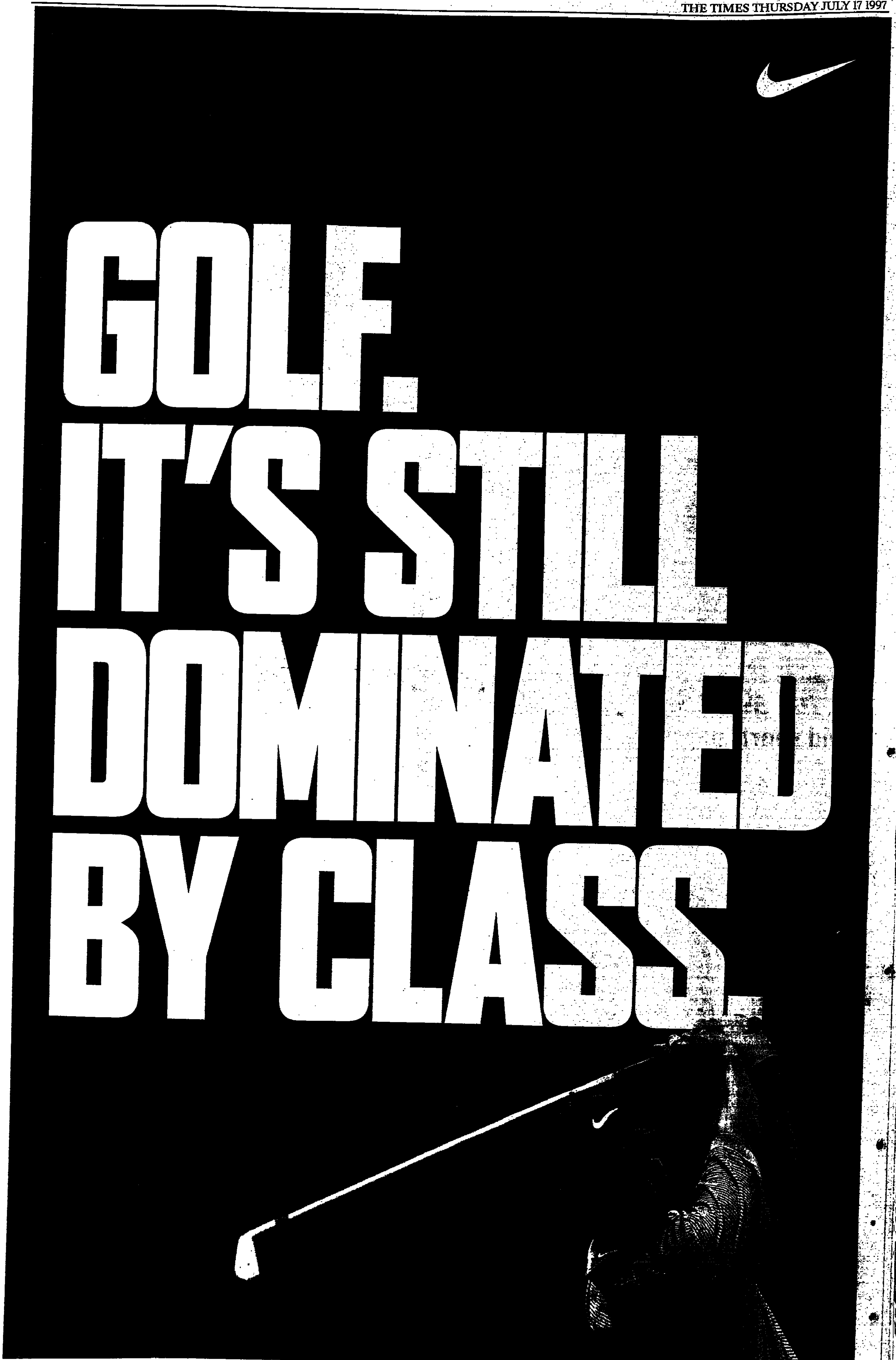
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Judges tell vexatious priest: pray be silent

Court bar put on opponent of women priests, reports Michael Horsnell

A CLERGYMAN was declared a vexatious litigant yesterday after launching legal proceedings 14 times in three years in his campaign to stop the ordination of women priests.

On an application brought by the Attorney-General, two High Court judges barred the Rev Paul Williamson from starting fresh proceedings or continuing existing ones without High Court permission.

Although the judgment means the English and Welsh courts may have rid themselves of a turbulent priest, the Church of England was warned that it had not heard the last of him.

Mr. Williamson, 49, who has accused the Archbishop of Canterbury of treason and the General Synod of heresy, said after the hearing: "I will pursue this matter with every fibre of my being while there is mortal breath in my body, *ad nauseam, ad infinitum, ad eternum*. St Thomas à Becket lost his life standing up to the King for what he believed. The blood of martyrs is the seedbed of the Church. I commit my cause to my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." He was refused leave to appeal against the judgment of Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Jowitt but said that he would take his case to the European Court of Justice.

Mr Williamson, priest-in-charge of St George's Church, Feltham, west London, was backed in court by the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party. Mr Paisley said he believed that Mr Williamson had put to the courts a valid question involving the legal standing of the Coronation Oath.

"He was not being vexatious, but was trying to pursue a case which ought to be answered," Mr Paisley said.

Mr Williamson, a single man from Caithness who was ordained 25 years ago, owes £22,000 in legal costs. The Church of England is understood to have spent more than £60,000 on its costs.

He maintains that the ordination of women breaches the Coronation Oath. He says it was "an abuse of the Queen's assent and signature to procure a so-called validity for the measure and canon purporting to legalise heretical priestesses in the Church of England".

Ian Burnett, representing the Attorney-General, said Mr Williamson first launched proceedings in February 1994. The Archbishops of Canterbury and York had been accused of treason, and the Bishops of Southwark, Willesden and Bristol had also been targets.

Most recently he sought to overturn the appointment of the Rev Lucy Winkett as a minor canon at St Paul's Cathedral. Despite repeated court defeats, rebuffs and warnings from judges that his actions were becoming "repetitive and abusive", he had remained undeterred.

Mr Williamson told the High Court judges: "I have not sought to make myself obnoxious. I have come with fear and trembling to these courts, with no legal training. I have had to organise my life as a parish priest while at the same time sitting up through the night reading Halsbury's Statutes. I have done this out of sincere belief and I find this case against me very hurtful."

He said he had the greatest respect for the Queen and would be meeting her next week at a garden party.

Giving judgment, Mr Justice Jowitt said he accepted the sincerity of Mr Williamson's beliefs about the ordination of women, which were shared by many others. But the courts could not express any view on the doctrinal controversy because it was outside their remit. "He has now reached the end of the road as far as the courts are concerned. He has lost the legal battle. Unfortunately he will not accept this.

"Mr Williamson delays the access of others to the courts, and the courts are entitled to protect their procedures from abuse by the vexatious and persistent litigant."

The Church of England declined to comment.

ANDRÉ CAMARA

Ian Paisley at court with the Rev Paul Williamson

Andrews claims fiance's family upset her in court

BY JOANNA BALE

TRACIE ANDREWS, accused of the murder of her fiancé, Lee Harvey, broke off from giving evidence yesterday to complain that his family were making remarks about her from the public gallery.

While answering questions from her lawyer, Ronald Thwaites, QC, Miss Andrews interrupted and said: "I'm sorry, I won't put up with remarks."

Mr Thwaites said he had not heard anything and asked what she meant. She indicated Mr Harvey's parents, Ray and Maureen, and relatives sitting in the front row of the public gallery. Mr Harvey's family have reserved seats in the public gallery, which has been packed throughout the trial.

The judge, Mr Justice Buckley, said he had not heard any remarks but said anyone who made comments in future would be asked to leave.

Miss Andrews, 28, of Alvechurch, Hereford and Worcester, finished giving evidence at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday. Later the court was told that a key defence witness had a string of convictions, including an attempt to pervert the course of justice.

Stephen Rodenhurst, owner of a demolition company, said that he had been involved in a road-rage incident earlier on the day of Mr Harvey's murder, a few miles away. A man had threatened to stab him in the neck.

Mr Rodenhurst said he had contacted Miss Andrews's solicitors after seeing an E-fit of a man allegedly involved in Mr Harvey's murder.

David Crigman, QC, for the prosecution, said that Mr Rodenhurst had convictions dating back to 1979, including assault. He had served prison sentences and had been arrested and brought to the court yesterday after refusing to give evidence. Mr Rodenhurst said that he had been unhappy with the approach of Miss Andrews's solicitors, but stood by his account of the road-rage incident.

Miss Andrews denies murder. The trial continues.

Crossroads may be dead end for Parker Bowles

BY ALAN HAMILTON

TODAY Camilla Parker Bowles celebrates her fiftieth birthday. An essentially insignificant milestone on the route of the average woman's life may turn out to be more of a crossroads for the close friend of the Prince of Wales.

The highlight of the celebrations happens tomorrow, when the Prince hosts a private but well-publicised party for Mrs Parker Bowles and a select group of friends at Highgrove, his Gloucestershire home. The event is the first firm acknowledgement of their relationship since the Prince's public confession of adultery on television.

Guests are expected to include the small circle of acquaintances who are in touch with both parties: the Earl and Countess of Shelburne, the Earl and Countess of Halifax, the Palmer-Tomkinsons, and possibly Mrs Parker Bowles's sister Annabel, and her two children, Laura, 18, and Tom, 21, the latter now an undergraduate at Oxford.

However, no member of the Prince's family is thought to have been invited, certainly not his sons and not even his sister, the Princess Royal, to whom he is reasonably close and who lives near by. The imbalance only serves to underline the fact that the couple's relationship remains essentially undercover.

There has been some speculation that tomorrow's party will mark an end to secrecy, and that Mrs Parker Bowles will henceforth be seen and mentioned in public as the Prince's *de facto* companion. Sources close to the Prince deny any such thing and play down any suggestion that the couple's relationship may be placed on a more public footing. The Prince's senior staff are said to be terrified at the prospect.

Nor is there any real evidence, as has been suggested, of a concerted campaign by Mrs. Parker Bowles's few close associates to make her more publicly acceptable, although they do admit that she now leads an impossible life.

"Constant attention from the paparazzi means she cannot go shopping, or take a walk, or any other normal activity. She has had to learn how to go to ground," one source said yesterday. "She is at a crossroads in her life; she is divorced, associated with a man who probably cannot and will not ever marry her, and her prospects are not at all clear."

Mrs Parker Bowles is acknowledged by those who know her as a notably tough character, a trait inherited from her father, Bruce Shand, a tough old warrior now aged 80, who won a double Military Cross and demanded a hip replacement in his late 70s so that he could continue to ride to hounds.

For all her toughness, Mrs Parker Bowles may find that, as she reaches the crossroads today, all the obvious options may turn out to be blind alleys.

Parker Bowles: party for selected friends

Princess plans charity trip to Hong Kong

DIANA, Princess of Wales, is to pay a private visit to Hong Kong in September to support a local hospice charity, making her the first member of the Royal Family to visit since the handover to China (Alan Hamilton writes).

The announcement was made by her office at Kensington Palace as the Princess and her sons continued their holiday in the South of France as guests of Mohamed Al Fayed.

During her two-day visit to the former colony, the Princess will attend a dinner and gala evening to raise money for the Society for the Promotion of Hospice Care. The Princess will also open a bereavement counselling centre for the charity. On route she will attend a function in Singapore for an Aids charity.

Her Far East trip is regarded as entirely private and she will not be representing the British Government. The Foreign Office and Buckingham Palace are understood to have given the trip their full approval.

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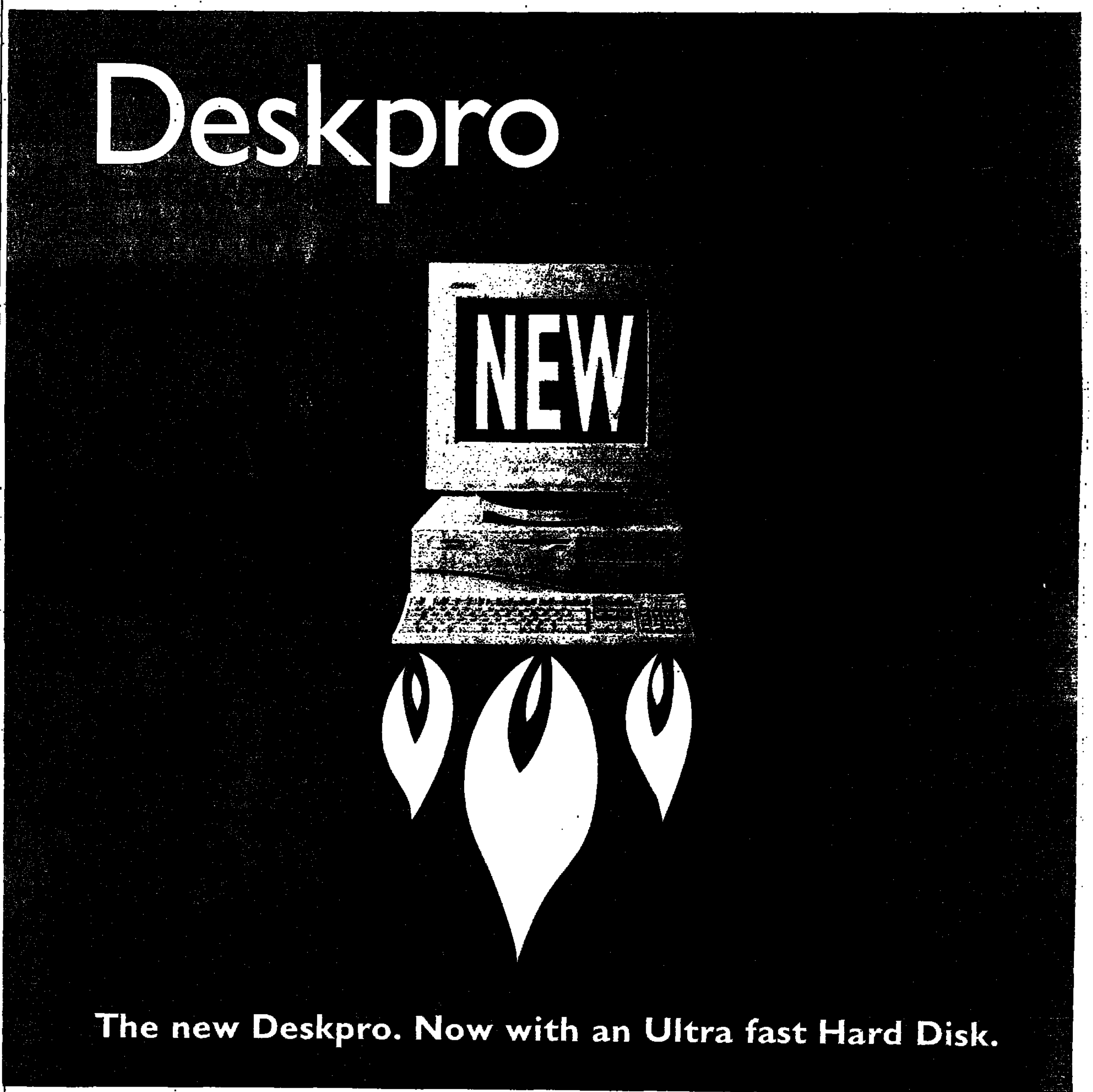
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Police fight for more cameras as road deaths fall

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS were in conflict with senior police officers and motoring organisations last night over a Government refusal to let speeding fines pay for more spy cameras on dangerous roads.

The first detailed research into the impact of the speed cameras suggested yesterday that they contributed to a 70 per cent fall in deaths and marked reductions in the number and seriousness of accidents. Launching London's 400th camera site, near Ealing, west London, Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, said: "Enforcement cameras have given a major boost to road safety. To those who say that speed in itself is not the cause of accidents, I urge you to look carefully at the results."

However, he insisted that £8 million collected in fines as a direct result of the cameras must be paid into the Treasury, and could not be retained by police to expand the network. The money for extra cameras would have to be found from existing budgets.

Police acknowledge privately that growing pressure on resources has led to less frequent maintenance of cameras and to moving them less often among the 1,800 sites. Industry sources say that only one in eight sites houses a working camera. "The trick is to know where the seven are," said an electronics expert.

Ministers argue that a fixed-penalty system in which fines are paid to police forces rather than central Government would effectively decriminalise speeding. The Treasury is also reluctant to give up its power to collect fines centrally, fearing it would set a precedent for other penalties imposed by courts.

The cameras cost about £30,000 to buy and install, with a further £8,000 a year in maintenance. The research suggested that, even in the small survey area, they had saved about £60 million on accident costs, such as hospital treatment and insurance payouts for deaths.

There are almost 2,000 camera sites across Britain, installed by the Highways Agency and local authorities, and maintained by the police. Forces now have the power to install cameras themselves, but officers admit that they do not even have the resources to keep changing the film. Up to two thirds of cameras are not loaded to take photographs.

Chief Superintendent Brian Mackenzie, of the Police Superintendents Association, said of the report: "This is remarkable evidence. It's certainly something we'll be taking up with the Home Office, and I think chief constables will redouble their efforts."

The AA said that cameras could be put to greater use, and called for better locations and greater resources. Andrew Howard, its head of road safety, said: "Cameras are there to cut speed and reduce accidents, not just to generate income for the Treasury."

FATAL ACCIDENTS DOWN TWO THIRDS

THE report published yesterday gives the most detailed analysis of the accident rate on busy roads before and after the introduction of speed cameras.

The Highways Agency looked at ten west London roads, comparing three years from October 1992 with the previous 36 months. It found that after cameras were introduced the number of fatal accidents was 19, against 62 in the previous three years. The number of serious accidents fell by more than a quarter, from 666 to 483.

There was a less marked reduction in minor accidents, from 3,074 to 2,832. Overall, the number of speed-related accidents dropped by nearly two thirds, from 470 to 166.

There are now 400 cameras on the capital's trunk roads to record speeding and traffic light and junction offences.

SIMON SCHLUTER

London's 400th speed camera at Ealing: police say that cash shortages mean that some may contain no film

Chasing speed led to slower traffic

BY OUR TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE flashing camera that brings motorists out in a cold sweat owes its infamy to a driver intent on breaking any vulnerable speed record. Maurice Gatsonides, a Dutch racing driver, is the inspiration behind the camera, nicknamed the Gatso in his memory.

Gatsonides, a past winner of the Monte Carlo rally, developed the "Gatsometer" in 1953 to give him accurate information on his practice times. Although his system failed to help him improve his times, it proved so successful in recording his lap times that police in Amsterdam asked him to design a version that could be used to combat speeding.

Gatsonides, now 88, oversees a business that has exported the cameras to more than 20 countries, including the America. However, he is unable to claim responsibility for the original idea. An anonymous Parisian in 1900 was anxious to prove that road speed was a growing danger. Using a complex sequence of photographs and timings, he sent evidence to the Prefect of Police of vehicles reaching speeds of up to 10mph.

Britain was slow to take up the speed camera, although from 1987 cameras were used to spot traffic-light offences, the first being installed in Nottingham. The passage of the 1991 Road Traffic Act enabled the introduction of speed cameras in 1992, the first being installed on the A316 Twickenham Bridge in west London.

Serco, a Gloucester-based company that provides a range of public sector services, is the British agent for the Gatso, whose use to catch speeding drivers is expected to increase dramatically during the next five years.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Spielberg film extras catch chill

Irish soldiers employed as extras in a recreation of the D-Day invasion for a new film directed by Steven Spielberg have become unwell, two with suspected hypothermia. More than 50 men were exposed to the elements of the Irish Sea for up to two hours as scenes were being shot for the £45 million epic *Saving Private Ryan*, starring Tom Hanks.

Most of the men, playing American GIs, suffered chills, colds and sore throats but two were admitted to hospital in Wexford with suspected hypothermia. They were treated for exposure and released after half an hour.

Death damages

The family of a woman who died after a hospital needlessly gave her drugs to delay labour was awarded £226,000 at the High Court. West Kent Health Authority admitted treating Debbie Coram, 20, of Rainham, negligently.

IRA charges

Two men were charged in Dublin with the murder of Jerry McCabe, a policeman shot during an IRA raid on a postal van last year. Jeremiah Sheehy, 36, and Michael O'Neill, 46, were also charged with membership of the IRA.

Lake health alert

Bathers and watersports enthusiasts have been barred from Lough Leane, one of the Lakes of Killarney in the west of Ireland, because of a potentially lethal blue-green algae, believed to be caused by human or farm effluent.

Raid victim ill

A 94-year-old man was in hospital after having a heart attack while burglars ransacked his home. Kenneth Fisher, of Redcar, dialled 999 but the thieves fled before police arrived. A clock was stolen.

Baby's escape

Nine-month-old Jade Lindsay escaped with minor cuts after being thrown through the passenger window of a car, still strapped into her safety seat. She landed on a traffic island 20ft away after the crash in Rochdale.

Keeping cars in tune is safer

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

LISTENING to music in the car makes people better drivers — but only if the volume is kept low.

Researchers have found that people who drive to the accompaniment of pop and rock music have better reaction times and can avoid hazards more skilfully than those who drive in silence. But those who drove with the volume turned up braked far slower when objects such as a child running out into the street came into view.

Psychologists at the University of Sydney decided to study the effects of music and driving after pulling up at traffic lights next to car shaking with a "ghetto-blasting" stereo system with a heavy bass.

The researchers recruited 60 men and women aged between 20 and 28 to see how they fared on simulated driving tests under three noise conditions: silence, rock music played at 55 decibels and the same music blaring at 85 decibels. The guinea-pigs were asked to sit in front of a simulator with a steering wheel and accelerator and brake foot-pedals. They had to track a moving disc on screen, respond to traffic lights, and brake in response to arrows that appeared without warning, according to *New Scientist*.

Tracking the disc proved no problem for any of the "drivers". But under the loud and quiet music they braked at a red light 50 milliseconds faster than when no music was playing. The scientists point out that this could mean a difference in braking distance of a couple of metres.

One of the biggest differences was between people hearing loud music and those hearing quiet music. In response to objects intruding on their peripheral vision, those people hearing the loud music were about 100 milliseconds slower at braking than than those listening to quiet music.

Sleepy drivers 'like drunks'

BY OUR TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

PEOPLE deprived of sleep for a couple of nights behave as if they are drunk drivers, scientists have found.

Researchers at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, in Woodville, South Australia, tested 40 people. One group was given increasing amounts of alcohol and the other progressively deprived of sleep. They were then tested on skills such as hand and eye coordination.

After 17 hours, those in the group without sleep behaved like people with a blood alcohol level of 0.05 per cent which is equal to the drink-driving limit in many countries. After 24 hours of "sustained wakefulness", their coordination dropped to an alcohol intake equivalent to 0.10 per cent.

Some experts have voiced concern over a link between accidents among shift workers and sleeping patterns. "As about 50 per cent of shift workers do not sleep on the day before the first night shift, and levels of fatigue on subsequent night shifts can be even higher, our data indicate that the performance impairment associated with shift work could be even greater than reported here," the scientists say in *Nature*.

The researchers, led by Drew Dawson, at the hospital's centre for sleep research, believe that their findings will allow sleep deprivation to be expressed as a blood/alcohol equivalent.

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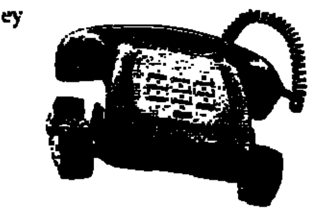

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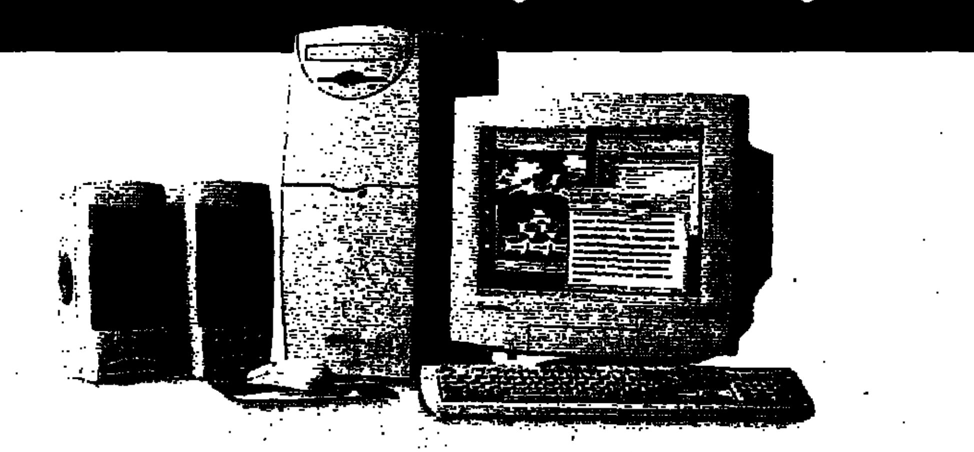

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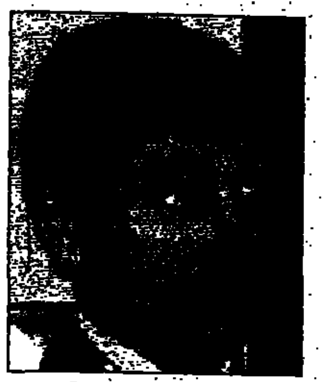
Port staff to be charged over Sea Empress

Errors highlighted in report include communication failures and lack of equipment, **Arthur Leathley** reports

CRIMINAL charges are to be brought against senior harbour managers over the *Sea Empress* oil disaster last year.

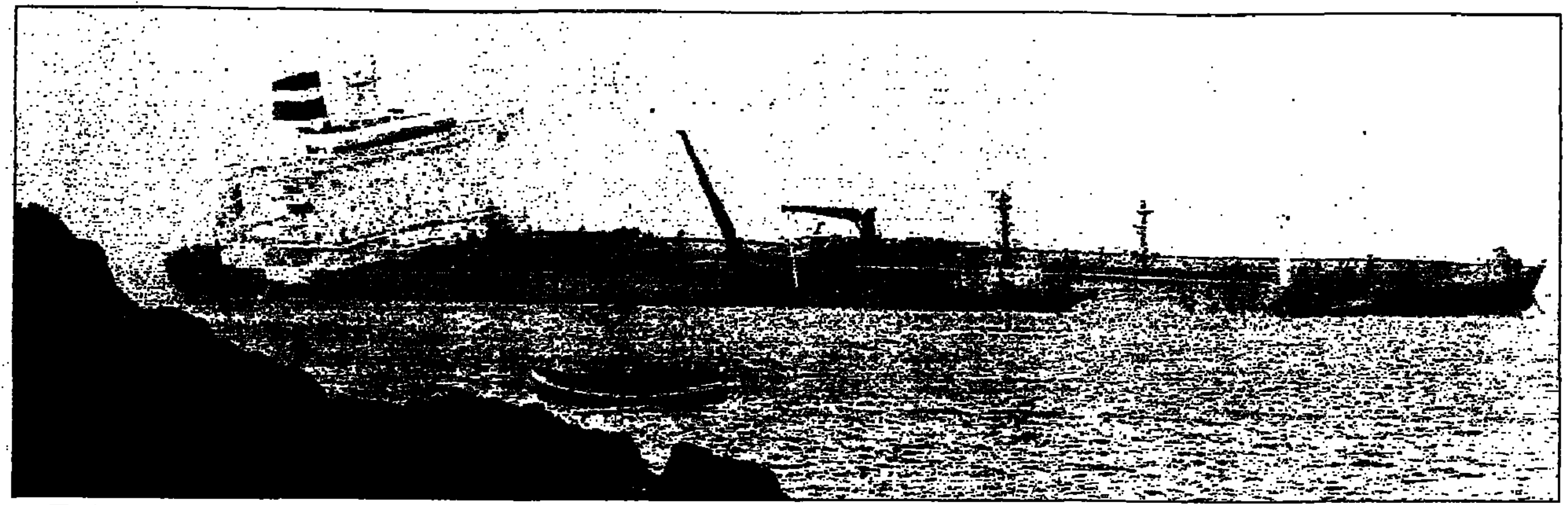
A string of errors and communications failures led to serious delays in trying to stem the flow of 72,000 tonnes of crude oil from the stricken ship. Huge stretches of the South Wales coast were contaminated.



Andrews: was on duty during the incident

A highly critical report published yesterday prompted the Environment Agency to take the rare step of prosecuting both Mark Andrews, the harbourmaster who was on duty during the incident, and Milford Haven Port Authority. The decision to bring criminal charges underlined the severity that the Environment Agency attached to the spillage, which killed or injured more than 7,000 seabirds. The penalty for conviction under the Water Resources Act is a maximum of three months in prison and a fine of £20,000 if the case is heard by magistrates, or a two-year sentence or unlimited fine if the case goes to a Crown Court. The charges allege that public nuisance was caused by failures to control the spillage.

Friends of the Earth, which is still considering bringing a private prosecution against the Government, called for former ministers to be brought to court to explain the reason for shortages of equipment. It took six days to rescue the ship after it had been removed from rocks but ran aground a second time.



The *Sea Empress*, which ran aground in February last year, spilling 72,000 tonnes of crude oil into the sea off Milford Haven. Thousands of seabirds were harmed

Yesterday, the final report by the Transport Department's marine accident investigation branch made clear that there were widespread failures, starting with mistakes made by the pilot guiding the tanker into Milford Haven. There were insufficient tugs of the right power and manoeuvrability, and a lack of full understanding of the tidal currents in the area, the report concluded.

After the initial stages of the accident in February 1996, "the incident was outside the scope of Milford Haven Port Authority's emergency plans", the report said. It added that the onshore management team "became too large and unwieldy to cope with a rapidly moving salvage incident" and suggested that the Government should have been advised by a commercial salvage expert.

The 147,000-tonne Liberian-registered tanker had sailed from Scotland and was being guided into the port by John Pearn. The report said the pilot failed to take action to keep the vessel in the deepest part of the middle channel leading into the port. It added: "The pilot's error was due in part to inadequate training and experience in the pilotage of large tankers."

The report said that the standards of training and examination of pilots at Milford Haven were unsatisfactory. The investigation branch also said there was a "confrontational relationship between the authority and the pilot" and this could not be "conducive to the safe operation of the port".

Mr Pearn was found guilty of incompetence at a Milford Haven Port Authority inquiry last year and was demoted. But he successfully appealed against the decision and was able to resume working with large tankers.

The long-term damage caused by the *Sea Empress* oil spillage is still being evaluated, but conservationists generally agree that it has not been as bad as feared. The main concern is the lingering effect on bird and fish life.

Dolphins in wild use sponges as tools

BY NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

DOLPHINS may be even brighter than scientists had supposed after the discovery that, like people and apes, they use tools in the wild.

American scientists have spotted dolphins using sponges as tools in Shark Bay, Western Australia. The researchers believe animals employ the sponges to ward off attackers or to find food. Five female dolphins were observed carrying sponges around on the tips of their snouts.

The researchers, from the University of Michigan, believe the sponges may protect dolphins searching for food on the seabed from the hazardous spines and stings of creatures such as stonefish and stingrays.

They may also help them find food. "They may be dragging the sponges along the seafloor to stir up prey," said Rachel Smolker, who led the research. The observations, published in the journal *Ethology*, are thought to be the first evidence of practical use of tools by dolphins in the wild.

Mark Simmonds, a marine scientist at the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society in Bath, said the findings were extremely interesting. In captivity, dolphins could be taught to balance objects on their noses or pull levers. In the wild they had been seen playing with floating seaweed, plastic or netting.

Of the new study, he said: "The important point is that it's not play behaviour, it seems to be serving some useful purpose."

A day out with all the fun of the queue

BY OUR TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE noble and patient British pastime of queueing was given a new lease of life yesterday. It seems that people can actually be persuaded to enjoy it.

Researchers in a study of fairground rides at Alton Towers, Staffordshire, found that queuing could enhance the enjoyment of a visit. A report in *New Scientist* magazine said: "So successful is the queue system that peak visitors will wait up to an hour to get on the star attraction, the Nemesis Ride, and hardly seem to notice."

The trick was to manipulateperceptions about the length of the queue and whether it was worth the wait. A queue must twist "this way and that, making its true length impossible to judge". It must be designed so that those waiting were exposed to those who had come off the ride, to raise the level of anticipation.

Closed-circuit cameras picked out queue jumpers, and stopped them just as they got to the top of the queue. Dr Robert Mathews of Aston University said: "Transgressors are allowed to get away with their actions all the way up to the ride, before being stopped and invited to go to the end again."

The result is that people actually prefer to wait rather than get on a ride immediately, Liz Greenwood, a spokesman for Alton Towers, said: "We found that quiet days, when people can get straight on the rides were scoring lower enjoyment than busy days when people have to wait 15 to 20 minutes."

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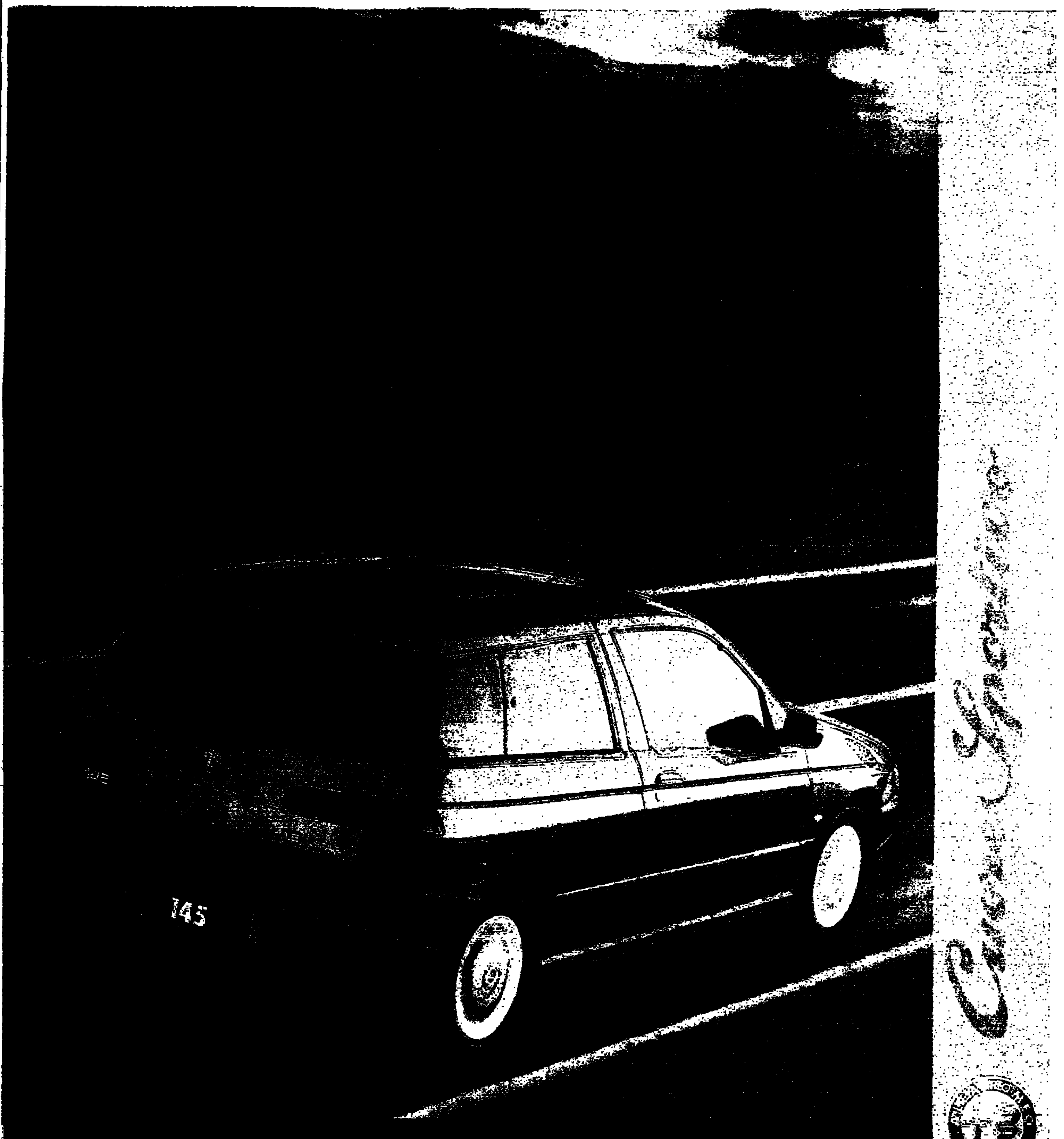

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Clark mends his 'monstrous' ways for Tory TV series

BY CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

ALAN CLARK promised yesterday that his television history of the Tory party will spare his colleagues the kind of "monstrous" treatment he meted out in his political diaries.

Mr Clark, who became MP for Kensington and Chelsea at the general election after a five-year break from the Commons, ends his BBC2 series with the Tories' landslide defeat on May 1. But the former Defence Minister, who called Kenneth Clarke a "pudgy puffball" and Michael Heseltine "that dreadful charlatan" in his acerbic diaries, said that he would not be beastly to his fellow MPs this time. The programme was intended as a serious chronicle of the party.

"I have written about my colleagues in the most monstrous way and they have welcomed me back, for which I am most grateful," he said at the launch of BBC2's £75 million autumn schedule. "This is totally different from the diaries, which were an instant recall of things in an uninhibited way. It is not a post mortem."

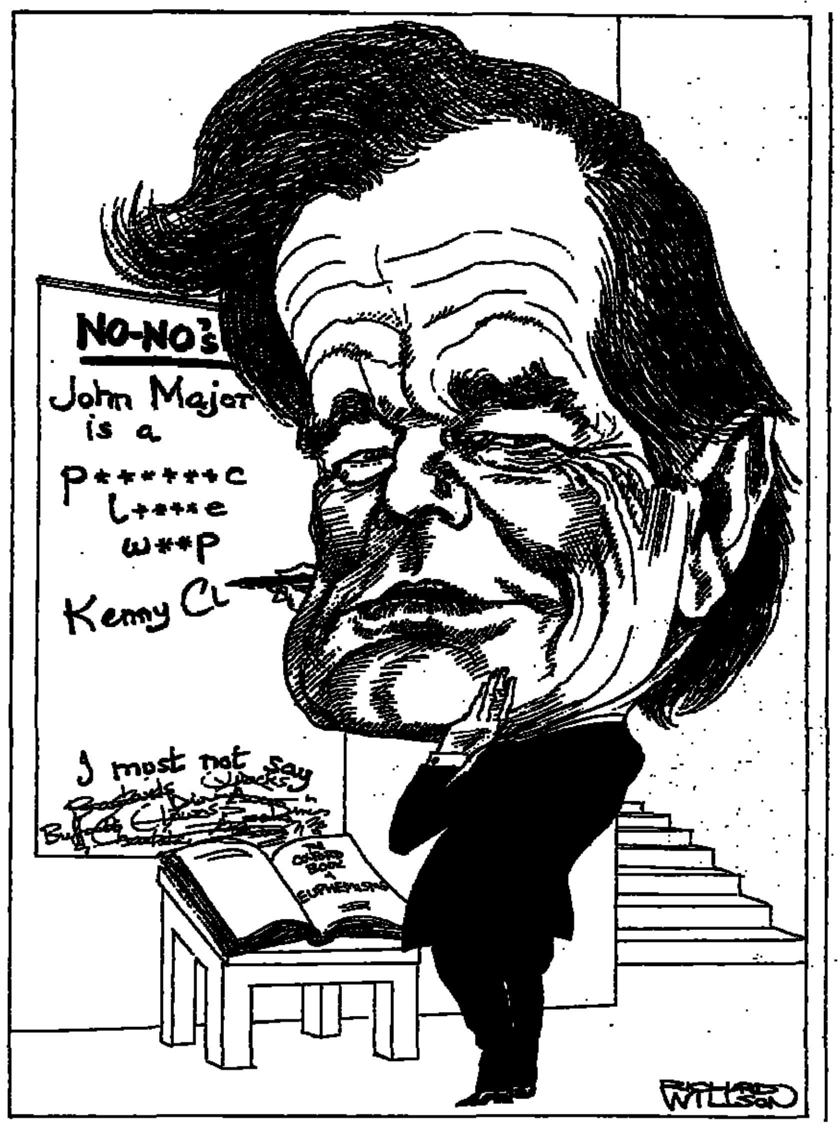
His approach appears not to have been influenced by any desire to rejoin the Tory party's front bench, which he said was like "the Latvian Government in 1943". During the Second World War Germany occupied Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, rendering their governments impotent.

Mr Clark denied that his return to the Commons created a conflict of interest. "No-one has ever accused me of not being objective and the series is an objective history of the Conservative Party from which people will have to draw their own conclusions. It is up to people to decide what they think of me as a TV presenter."

The first part of *Alan Clark's History of the Tory Party* covers 1922-39 from Stanley Baldwin's emergence as leader of the divided party to Neville Chamberlain's appeasement of Hitler and Winston Churchill's entry into the Cabinet. The second claims to shed new light on Churchill. Mr Clark repeats his controversial views that Churchill broke the bank, lost the empire and neglected domestic affairs and politics to the detriment of his party. Part three includes the decline of Tory fortunes under Edward Heath and the challenge mounted by Margaret Thatcher. The final episode charts Mrs Thatcher's leadership years to the catastrophic election defeat this year.

Mr Clark declined to reveal his assessment of John Major's tenure as Prime Minister because the series was based on a book, due out this autumn, for which he had not yet negotiated the serial rights.

The autumn schedule also features two former Tory Cabinet ministers. Michael Portillo presents a programme next month in which he reports on Tory infighting in the 19th century and the Tory wilderness years. In November Douglas Hurd presents *The Search for Peace*, a reflection on major wars this century.



How Blair can benefit from gesture on PR

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Tony Blair is helping himself as well as Paddy Ashdown in deciding to press ahead with legislation for proportional representation in the European Parliament elections in 1999. The use of first-past-the-post for Euro-elections has been increasingly anomalous. This is not merely because Britain is the only country to retain the system in face of pressure for a uniform electoral approach throughout Europe based on PR. The Tories successfully deflected these calls after direct elections were introduced in 1979. This was based on a defence of single-member constituencies, as well as the familiar conservative argument of the "wedge" — the fear that conceding PR for the European elections would increase the pressure for it at Westminster.

The winner-take-all nature of first-past-the-post exaggerates the impact of shifts in votes, as we saw on May 1 when Labour won 63 per cent of the seats on nearly 44 per cent of the vote. This leverage is even greater with the Euro-seats, which include seven or eight Westminster seats. In the European elections, the Tories won 60 out of 78 seats in Britain in 1979 on just over 50 per cent of the total vote. By 1994, the tables had been turned. Labour won 62 out of 84 seats (again excluding Northern Ireland) with 44 per cent of the vote.

In David Butler and Martin Westlake's *British Politics and European Elections 1994*, John Curtice and Michael Steed estimate what the outcome would have been then if a regional list system had been used. This would allocate seats proportionally according to voter preferences within 11 regions. This still helps larger parties compared to a national PR system. Although Labour would have 18 fewer Euro-MPs than now, the party would still have 44 seats, or 52 per cent, 8 percentage points more than its share of the vote.

So a switch to a regional list system would mean fewer Labour MEPs. However, under first-past-the-post Labour will almost certainly lose seats in June 1999, near the mid-point of the Parliament. If Labour is as unpopular then as previous governments have been in their mid-terms, it might paradoxically have more seats under PR than it would have as a result of the exaggerated swings produced by first-past-the-post. So PR may be a cushion to the inevitable swing against the Government.

A regional list system would give power to the party leadership which controls the lists. Some existing Labour MEPs have been distinctly off-message in their willingness to challenge Mr Blair's approach and to express their "old" Labour views. Few tears would be shed in Millbank Tower at a culling of the MEPs.

The uncertainty about the Bill has been all rather odd since Labour has been committed for some time to changing the electoral system in 1999 (most recently in its joint statement with the Liberal Democrats) and everyone has known the need for rapid action in view of the tight timetable. The Liberal Democrat leadership is pleased with the Government's move, not least because it vindicates Mr Ashdown's decision not to make a public fuss and trust that Mr Blair would deliver, what is primly known as "constructive opposition". The two leaders talked on their visit to Hong Kong two weeks ago, particularly during a refuelling stop in Siberia.

The next stage is the proposed commission to produce a PR alternative to first-past-the-post for Westminster, to be put to a referendum later in the Parliament. The Liberal Democrats are not banging the table and setting deadlines. Mr Blair remains very cool to PR for Westminster, so an announcement is unlikely before the autumn. But, for the moment, Mr Blair has made a friendly gesture, albeit one that helps him too.

PETER RIDDELL

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: questions to agriculture ministers and the Attorney-General; Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order; backbench debate on regeneration of Thanet. In the Lords: Education (Schools) Bill, report; Pharmacists Bill, committee; debate on Government's assessment of progress in meeting Maastricht treaty provisions; debate on future of Birmingham hospitals.

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Fundholder patients must join the queue

Hospitals will admit only on basis of need, **Ian Murray** reports

QUEUE-JUMPING by patients of fundholding doctors is to be stopped from next April, when hospitals will have to admit people for treatment solely on the basis of medical need.

The Prime Minister, announcing an end to privileged treatment for the 60 per cent of patients who have fundholding GPs, told the Commons: "It is based on two simple ideas — rebuilding the NHS and fairness, neither of which the Conservative Party understand."

Answering an emergency question, Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, said the fundholding system created by the Tory Government was "unfair to patients, repugnant to the doctors and nurses who had to apply it, and cost a fortune in extra paperwork.

"At the general election we promised to restore fairness to the health service, end the two-tier system and ensure that access to treatment is based on need and need alone. We pledged to change the system so that no patients and no GP practices suffered any longer from the unfairness introduced by the Conservatives."

He said that all NHS trusts must operate a fair waiting list for urgent admissions regardless of who is commissioning the care. The waiting time standards will, nevertheless, vary between health authorities with each of them setting its own maximum waiting time standards common to all residents. Within these common standards, admission of residents for non-emergency treatment must be on the basis of clinical priority, regardless of the GP.

Trusts will not be able to offer preferential admission to patients of GP fundholders, and fundholders will not be able to press for faster treatment except on clinical grounds.

The change will not always be to the detriment of fundholders' patients. This is because although 60 per cent of health authorities have shorter waiting times for the patients of fundholders, 37 per cent have shorter lists for non-fundholders' patients.

Clive Parr, general manager of the National Association of Fundholding Practices, said that he welcomed the change. "The only thing we want to ensure is that this provides a genuine levelling up and not a levelling down of the service," he said. "It must not be the case that care is levelled down in order to make this possible.

"This can only be done if health authorities adopt the principles of fundholders. Authorities cannot continue to buy a block of treatment for unnamed patients but will need to track each patient to ensure each person gets the care they need. Block contracts can be cheaper, but it is impossible with them to tell if the care is going to the right person or if the bill is correct."

The British Medical Association also welcomed the Government's statement but said that equity for all must not mean equity at the lower end of the scale. "We want to see that patients of non-fundholding GPs have the same opportunity for enhanced treatment as those from fundholding practices," Dr Ian Bogle, chairman of the association's GPs' committee, said. "This is an opportunity for levelling up, not levelling down."

Philip Hunt, chief executive of the NHS Confederation, which speaks for all health authorities and hospitals, said that the principle of equitable treatment was clearly right but that health authorities and GPs would need to work together to sort out priorities. "It will be essential to ensure that GPs have an important role to play in influencing the quality of treatment to be given to patients," he said.

Leading article, page 19

Femme assise dans un fauteuil, painted by Picasso in 1913

A dozen Picassos released for sale

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

A DOZEN spectacular paintings by Picasso are to be sold as part of a collection described as the most important private holding of 20th-century art offered at auction.

More than £80 million is expected to be paid for 115 paintings, drawings, sculptures and prints that also include more recent modern masters such as the Pop artists Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg.

The highlights are Picasso's poignant *Femme assise dans un fauteuil* of 1913, regarded as one of the most powerful nude depictions of the early 20th century, estimated at £12 million; and *Le Rêve*, one of his exquisite portraits, estimated at £20 million.

The collection was put together by a New York couple, Victor and Sally Ganz, who made their fortune in costume jewellery and championed artists long before they were known. The works will be sold by Christie's on November 10.

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Saturday in THE TIMES
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weekend

London's health care 'near collapse'

By Ian Murray
Medical Correspondent

LONDON's health system is in danger of collapse unless there is much better co-operation between its 68 hospital trusts, 16 health authorities and 32 boroughs.

The health warning comes in a report by the King's Fund, the leading independent think-tank on health policy. Dr John Pattison, of University College Medical School, and vice-chairman of the fund, says London's diversity has created defensive parochialism and destructive competitiveness among health providers. Plans to rationalise and close hospitals, put forward in the Tomlinson Report five years ago, have stalled because of "institutional resistance".

The fund says that apart from the difficulties in providing suitable hospital services, primary care is under great strain, mental care is less well provided than anywhere else in Britain, and large areas of inner city poverty create enormous problems of their own.

The Government is conducting its own review of London's health needs, but the report does not call for a new system, rather better co-operation between the existing health providers. It suggests health and social service budgets should be pooled to help to spread the available resources. It calls for a public health strategy covering the capital to improve living conditions, the environment, transport and hygiene. Most important of all are the provision of more facilities to look after the mentally ill and ageing populations.

Drink toll blamed on increase in divorce

By Our Medical Correspondent

A RISE in deaths from drink-related diseases is probably linked to Britain's divorce rate, which is the highest in Europe, a leading specialist in alcohol dependency said yesterday.

Launching the first guidelines to help doctors to identify and to treat heavy drinkers, Dr Jonathan Chick, a consultant psychiatrist and senior lecturer at Edinburgh University, said that alcohol was increasingly a problem among single parents and people living on their own.

"The number of people dying from alcohol-related diseases has doubled in Britain in the past decade, whereas the rate has fallen in America and many European countries. A partial explanation of this seems to be that Britain has the highest divorce rate in Europe, with a growing proportion of people living alone," he said.

Up to 30 per cent of male admissions and 15 per cent of female admissions to surgical and medical wards are for alcohol-related diseases. The UK Alcohol Forum, set up by doctors and health-care professionals, decided that guidelines for doctors were needed because of the relative lack of medical training in identifying heavy drinkers.

They tell a doctor how to assess alcohol dependence by asking a series of questions. Based on this information, the doctor can decide whether to ask for laboratory tests to find out how seriously the addiction has affected the patient's health.

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Publisher takes a £750,000 shine to GCSE failure

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

Nicholson: inspiration in the film *The Shining*

A WOMAN aged 25 who twice failed GCSE English has reportedly signed a publishing deal worth £750,000 for her first three books.

Keri Beevis, who writes bloodthirsty horror stories on a computer in her bedroom under the pen name Keri Leigh, has been taken up by the publishers Buckley-Bennion.

Peter Willis, her agent, said: "Although Buckley Bennion specialise in sports books, when the first novel came on their desk, they saw gold dust there. She's going to be a very wealthy girl."

While the publishing industry expressed surprise at the size of the deal, Andrew MacLachlan of Buckley-Bennion said: "We saw her great potential and knew she had talent." He added: "£750,000 would seem a lot for one book, but this is for three. She's worth it."

The publishers said Ms Beevis took up writing at the age of 12, after her father, an entertainment agent who used to run a video shop in Norwich, left a video of the *The Shining* lying around at home. The Stanley Kubrick film, based on the book by Stephen King and starring Jack Nicholson, left a lasting impression on his daughter. She said she used to wake up at night screaming, imagining that Nicholson, who played a psychotic hotel caretaker, was in her room.

It was her father who sent Ms Beevis's manuscripts to Buckley-Bennion in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. Two of her three novels are about serial killers. The first, *When the Pen Writes*, is about two friends who write horror stories only to find their fiction becomes reality when a serial killer copies the murder storylines from their books.

The book is set in America, which she has never visited. Ms Beevis said: "It will shock people. I don't hold back on anything."

She added: "The main inspiration for me was all sorts of horror films. I am a big fan of Hitchcock and I would have married him if I could. But it was *The Shining* that really hooked me on horror. I loved the atmosphere of the film, the music, the drama, and most of all Jack Nicholson. To be honest, I always had a sick streak."

Buckley-Bennion said the first book would be published this month and Mr Willis claimed that film rights were being negotiated. It will be a new departure for Buckley-Bennion: their other publications involve the agriculture industry and a rugby book that W.H. Smith said it was considering for the rugby season.

Ms Beevis said she was such a daydreamer at school that she managed to pass only one subject at GCSE — art. "I've just found my old report card," she said yesterday. "They said how rubbish I was at English. They said I was a big disappointment. I failed it at school and thought, how dare they fail me, it's my favourite subject. I retook it at college and failed."

Despite her impending wealth, Ms Beevis said she would not be giving up her day job at a travel agency in Norwich. Although she joked about buying the agency, she insisted that her life would not change and said she would continue to live at home with her parents.

Her agent said that her workmates inspired many of the twists in her tales. They had also been her most avid readers. Mr Willis explained that every week Ms Beevis wrote another chapter for her colleagues. "They're all youngsters. She takes in copies. They have had to change the times when they work on Mondays. The whole department reads them. At first, they were told, 'Get on with your work'. But now everyone comes in and wants to read the next chapter on a Monday."

Buckley-Bennion said in its press release about the publishing deal that Ms Beevis "tested the water with three major UK publishers and each time, without exception, received a positive reply. They were all quick to realise that here is a major talent who can not only tell a good story but can tell it using mainly dialogue."

ALBAN DONOHOE

Keri Beevis in the bedroom where she writes her horror stories and, below, an extract from her first book

> A wave splashed against Jordan's face. Her mouth filled with salty water. She choked and spat it out.
>
> She longed to wipe the water from her stinging eyes. Unable to though, she closed them tight as another wave hit her.
>
> The man stood watching her for a minute.
>
> "Please don't leave me," she begged.
>
> The water was already up to her mouth. Jordan tried to tilt her head back.
>
> The man shook his head and smiled to himself. "So long Jordan Presley."
>
> He began to walk away.
>
> "Wait, come back. Don't leave me here!"
>
> The man disappeared out of sight.

Deal is a good one for starters

By Erica Wagner

THE reported £750,000 deal for Keri Beevis's three horror novels is remarkable but not unknown for a first-time author. Arundhati Roy received £160,000 from HarperCollins for the British rights to her first novel, *The God of Small Things*. She has made more than £600,000 from the book.

Martin Amis notoriously received £480,000 for his last novel, *The Information*, but he is an author with a literary track record. The thriller writer Michael Ridpath received £250,000 for his first two novels.

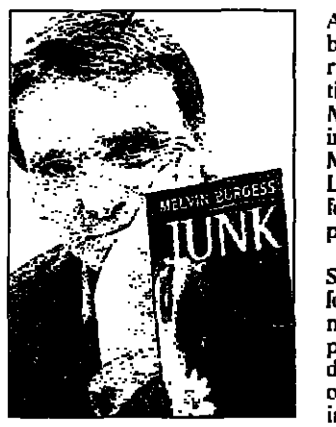
In the world of big-time commercial fiction, however, £750,000 can look like small change. Stephen King raked in £23 million for his latest four-book deal, while John Grisham sold film rights to *The Firm* and *The Chamber* for £2.5 million before he had written a word of them.

Carolyn Mays, Stephen King's editor at Hodder and Stoughton, said that these were established authors whose works have moved into the mainstream. King got £2,000 for his early novel, *Carrie*.

Ms Mays said: "For someone to have done this for their first book is extraordinary. It will be very interesting to see how they publish it, because it will have to reach a bigger audience than just the horror market to earn that back."

Story of teenage heroin addict wins prize for children's books

Education campaigners are dismayed by Carnegie judges' choice, reports **Jason Cowley**



Burgess: three times a runner-up for medal

A NOVEL about a teenage girl who becomes addicted to heroin after running away from her dysfunctional family won the 1997 Carnegie Medal yesterday for an "outstanding book for children". *Junk*, by Melvin Burgess, was praised by Lesley Sim, chairman of the judges, for its narrative drive, moral complexity and subtle characterisation.

Critics of the book, of whom Nick Seaton, chairman of the Campaign for Real Education, is one of the most trenchant, were less impressed. They complained that a distinguished children's book prize ought not to honour works that included scenes of violence and depravity.

"I don't think it's right to encourage children to read about all these very depressing aspects of life," Mr Seaton said. "It's no wonder children feel depressed about life and that suicide rates among young people are going up."

Ms Sim dismissed his remarks as unworthy of serious consideration. "Most of the people who criticise *Junk* haven't actually read it," she said. "The novel is not intended to be read by young children: because of the extremity of the subject I wouldn't recommend it to anyone under the age of 14.

"And yet, it deals with a very difficult, complex subject with real insight and sensitivity. There is nothing depraved in it. Burgess seeks not to glamorise drug-taking but to confront. It is a problem that cannot be ignored. People should remember that many of the classics read by teenagers, such as Hardy and Chaucer, are full of violence."

Melvin Burgess, whose brother was a heroin addict, was born in London in 1954. After leaving school at 18, he trained as a journalist and published his first novel, *The Cry of the Wolf*, in 1990. *Junk*, published by Andersen Press, is his eighth novel; he has been a runner-up for the Carnegie on three occasions. He was presented with a gold medal and £1,000 worth of books to be donated to a charity or institution of his choice at a ceremony at the South Bank Centre in London.

Burgess said of the book: "I was pretty sure if it was going to work, it would kick up some sort of fuss. I didn't sit down to write a warning but the story tells its own cautionary tale. It's depicting what can happen with heroin. Any book about it is a warning in itself."

That the Carnegie offers no prize money does not detract from the value of a prize first presented in 1937 to Arthur Ransome for *Pigeon Post*; the tangible rewards come from the consequent fillip to hardback and paperback sales. Penguin Children's Books report, for instance, that *Flour Babies*, by Anne Fine, enjoyed a sevenfold increase in paperback sales after winning the prize in 1992.

Miranda McKearney, of the Library Association, which administers the award, said: "That there is no prize money matters less than getting on the shortlist, since sales are where its real worth lie." The list of previous winners reads like a roll-call of great children's books and authors, and include C.S. Lewis, Walter de la Mare, Mary Norton and Eleanor Farjeon. The prize was established in 1936 to mark the centenary of the birth of Andrew Carnegie, a Scottish-American entrepreneur and philanthropist whose wealth helped to build almost 3,000 libraries, including 660 in Britain.

This year there were 54 entries read by 13 judges, all of whom are librarians and members of the Youth Libraries Group. *The Tulip Touch* (Hamish Hamilton, £4.99) by Anne Fine, and *Johnny and the Bomb* (Corgi, £3.99) by Terry Pratchett were highly commended.

Leading article, page 19
Teenagers' verdicts, page 35

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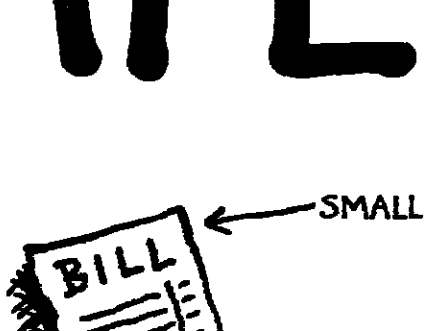

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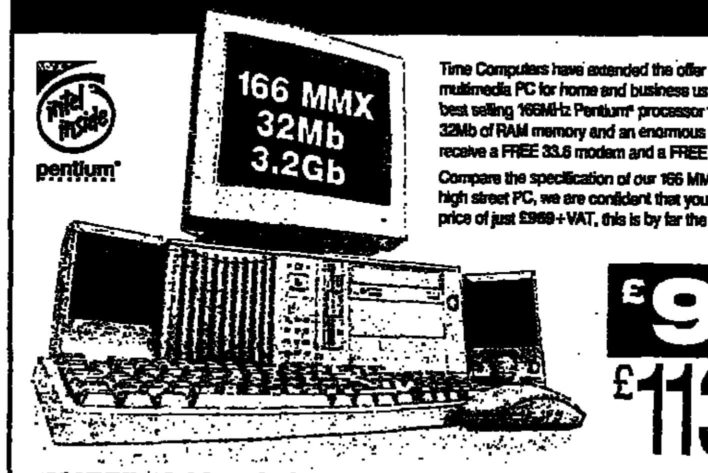

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هكذا عن الأصل

Santer maps out new 21-member EU and key spending reforms

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN STRASBOURG

THE map of a new 21-member European Union, with borders reaching the Russian frontier, was laid out to EU states yesterday along with radical spending reforms intended to limit the burden of absorbing five relatively poor former Communist states and Cyprus into the Western bloc.

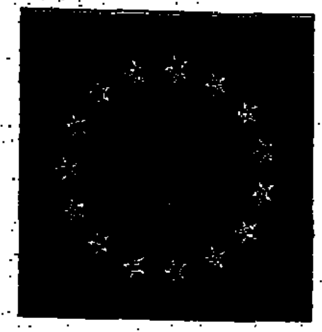
Britain hailed the "Agenda 2000" plan, announced by Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, as the opening of a new chapter" in the history of the European Union.

"We must grasp this historic opportunity to enhance security and prosperity throughout Europe," Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said. "We now have an opportunity both to end the divisions which have scarred our continent since the last war and to shape new policies which will bring benefits to all our citizens."

Britain, one of the most enthusiastic supporters of expanding the EU to the former Soviet bloc countries, takes over the rotating EU presidency in January in time to lead the opening of negotiations with Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Estonia and Cyprus. The Commission's choice of the five European countries must first be endorsed by EU leaders at a December summit.

Only once in the EU's 40-year history have governments overruled the Commission's choice for new members. That came in 1963 when France vetoed Britain's first application to join.

Cyprus, whose prospective membership is already drawing threats from Turkey, was promised an automatic place at negotiations in 1995. The EU wants the breakaway Turkish part of the Mediterranean island to be included in accession talks. Intense diplomacy is under way to resolve the 23-year-old division with the Greek-Cypriot Government of Cyprus. Turkey, which has been trying to join the EU for a quarter of a century, was given a consolation prize yesterday of a promise of closer association.



Britain would also use its presidency to forge ahead with the Commission's proposals to reform the common agriculture policy (CAP), which swallows nearly half the EU budget, and the system of regional aid which takes 40 per cent, Mr Cook said. "To be affordable, all existing member states will have to accept a lower level of receipts in the next century," he said.

Britain will, however, resist any attempt to reopen the question of its rebate on its contributions to the EU budget, won by Margaret Thatcher after a five-year battle in the 1980s. The Commission yesterday raised the prospect of ending the arrangement if the costs of expansion rose beyond its estimates.

The Commission's tightly-budgeted plan prompted scepticism among members of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, where Mr Santer presented it. Many voiced doubts about the Commission's optimistic assumption that the economies of the 15 would grow by 2.5 per cent a year until 2006 and the Eastern applicants' by more than 4 per cent.

This will be necessary to keep the EU's overall spending below the EU's current 1.27 per cent ceiling of GDP. Mr Santer, who is staking his reputation on the "Agenda 2000" scheme, promised to keep the cost of expansion below that ceiling, which would apply to the EU's next spending programme, from 2000-2006.

Mr Santer and the Commission's 1,200-page package were reticent about predicting the likely date for the biggest and most politically challenging expansion in the EU's history. "Around about 2002," was the closest Santer estimate.

The lack of deadlines reflects the widespread qualms among EU governments over embarking too quickly on an expensive remake of the Union that will inevitably end its days as a cosy club of prosperous nations. France and other founder nations are banking on the launch of monetary union in 1999 as the key to ensuring the existence of a close-knit core of members who will resist the dilution of the European enterprise.

None of the successful European applicants passed the full entrance test, which requires a functioning democracy, market economy and ability to assume the responsibilities of the single market, monetary union and all other EU rules. The Commission urged all to make more effort.

Estonia, the Baltic state that led the breakup of the Soviet Union, must integrate the stateless Russian minority of its population, the Commission said. Poland, the biggest of the new entrants, must tackle its huge farm sector.

The Commission took pains, however, to insist that it was keeping the door open for later entry by the five other applicants which it had ruled out as unready for EU membership: Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Latvia and Lithuania. Their cases will be reviewed annually.

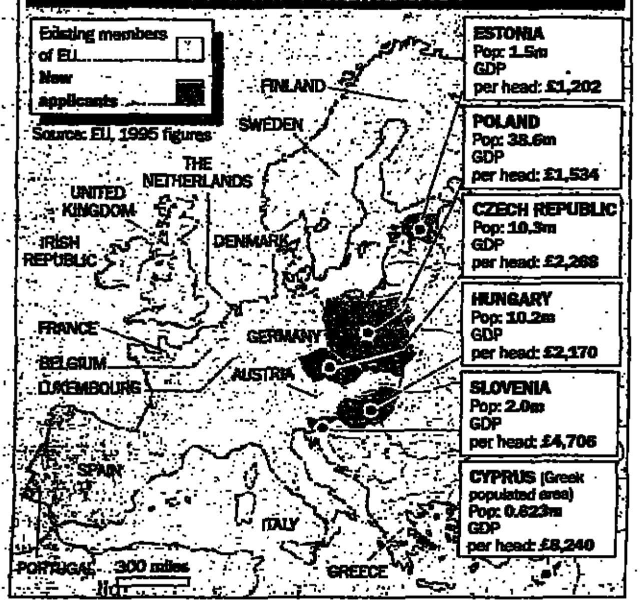
Mr Santer also called for a new inter-governmental conference, or IGC, to start within little more than a year, to tackle the reforms to the EU's decision-making machinery that EU leaders failed to settle at Amsterdam last month.

Mr Cook said Britain also supported the Commission's proposals to help to pay for the Central and Eastern European countries to complete their transition from state-commanded economies to democratic market economies. Calling for a "veritable Marshall plan", Mr Santer estimated that £50 billion would be needed to help to integrate the five.

The figure testifies to the far more complex nature of joining the EU compared with the relatively low-cost entry to Nato, which embraced Budapest, Warsaw and Prague.

Leading article, page 19

EU'S NEW MEMBERS?



Source: EU, 1995 figures

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Pop: 1.5m
GDP per head: £1,202

POLAND
Pop: 38.6m
GDP per head: £1,534

CZECH REPUBLIC
Pop: 10.3m
GDP per head: £2,268

HUNGARY
Pop: 10.2m
GDP per head: £2,170

SLOVENIA
Pop: 2.0m
GDP per head: £4,706

CYPRUS (Greek populated area)
Pop: 0.623m
GDP per head: £8,240

MICHAEL URBAN / REUTER

Jürgen Rüttgers, the German Science Minister, in holiday mood before the summer's last Cabinet meeting yesterday in Bonn, making a paper plane

Farmers hail wider market for exports

BY CHARLES BREMNER AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

BRITAIN'S farmers are expected to weather without undue difficulty the shake-up in farm spending caused by the European Union's expansion.

"On the whole it will be good for the United Kingdom," a senior EU farm official said. "Britain sells abroad more than most and one of the big changes will be an end to curbs on exports outside the EU."

Despite the positive gloss by Brussels on the reform to the common agricultural policy (CAP), British farmers will inevitably have to learn to live with less as the EU proceeds with long overdue reforms to a system which devours half the annual budget of £65 billion. The main aim of the shake-up is to make a further leap away from the system of pouring money into supporting prices at levels far above world levels. A continuation of the last reform launched in 1992, the new approach aims to end beef mountains and wine lakes created by overproduction and the buying in of crops by the EU to simply keep prices steady. But British consumer and environmental groups voiced disappointment, saying the reform could be more costly than the existing system and no less damaging to the countryside.

The National Consumer Council, which calculates that the CAP now costs the average family of four about £20 a week through a mixture of extra taxes and artificially high food prices, said the proposed reform was a "step in the right direction" but did not go nearly far enough.

The Council for Protection of Rural England and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said a great opportunity had been missed to attach environmental conditions to farm subsidies.

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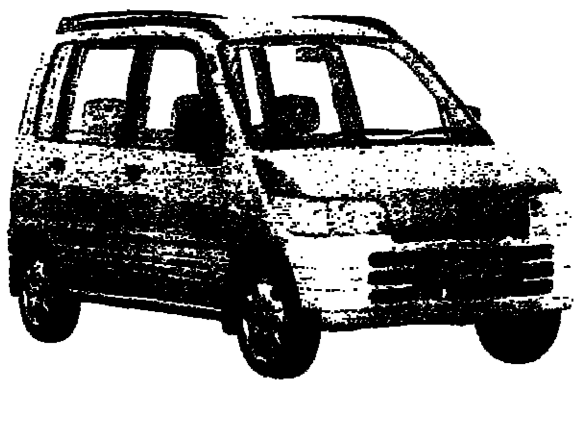

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Murder is boost for manual on how to keep stalkers at bay

From Bronwen Maddox in Washington

THE MURDER of Gianni Versace has given an even bigger boost to a publishing phenomenon of the summer: a self-help manual on how stars — and ordinary people — can protect themselves from stalkers and assassins.

Gavin de Becker, "security consultant to the stars", who has worked for Elizabeth Taylor and the O.J. Simpson prosecution team, has topped the bestseller lists with the lecture Americans were waiting to hear: *The Gift of Fear: Survival signs that protect us from violence.*

Fear of murder needs no explanation in modern America. To that has increasingly been added the fear of unwanted, threatening, attention; according to US government estimates, one woman in 20 will be stalked at some time in her life. Public anxiety has been stirred further by high-profile cases, such as John Hinckley Jr. who shot President Reagan in 1981 to demonstrate his obsession with film star Jodie Foster, or Mark Chapman, who shot John Lennon in 1980. But de Becker's message is that those who share the fatalism of President John Kennedy, who famously said that no assassin can be stopped because "all anyone has to do is be willing to trade his life for the President's", are wrong. "Assassination not only can be prevented, it is prevented far more often than it succeeds," he says. Violent crime is less random than people choose to think; they prefer to feel fatalistic rather than protect themselves — and there is a lot they can do.

His Los Angeles-based company, Gavin de Becker Inc, has advised on 20,000 cases; while he will not name his clients, his book credits Cher, Joan Rivers, Jeff Goldblum and Brooke Shields as "extraordinary friends whose lessons run throughout this book". He also advises the Government on threats to officials, judges, and abortion clinics, and helps companies with threats from angry employees.

Most danger comes from people you know, particularly spouses or lovers, he points out. But he argues that even serial killers, such as that played by Sir Anthony Hopkins in *The Silence of the Lambs*, are understandable and predictable. He quotes research by legendary FBI behavioural scientist Robert Ressler as suggesting that 100 per cent of serial killers "had been abused as children, either with violence, neglect or humiliation". De Becker's basic lesson is simple: pay attention to your intuition, that niggling sense that something is not quite right.

> ‘People afraid to visit Egypt are in more danger at home’

He warns against chronic anxiety: "many Americans who wouldn't travel to see the Pyramids for fear of being killed in Egypt stay home, where danger is 20 times greater". But he argues that fear is a normally accurate warning of danger: victims of the Unabomber mused "do you think this is a bomb?" before opening the packages that killed them.

For ordinary life, he gives unremarkable but useful rules such as: "Don't get into a lift with a man who looks at you intently; don't accept help with groceries in an underground car park; don't jog with Walkman headphones on." But to people in public life, his message is blunter: they should all expect unwanted attention.

Given the near-certainty that a star will attract at least one disturbed fan, he argues that security arrangements are staggeringly lax. He directs particular passion against the security at the Citizen Cup in Hamburg for the "negligence" that led to the stabbing of Yugoslav-born tennis star Monica Seles, at the height of the conflict in her former homeland in 1993, when security should have been tighter than ever.

But his greatest anger is directed at the Los Angeles police for failing to act on signs that Nicole Simpson-Brown was likely to be killed by her former husband O.J.

Among other sobering lessons, de Becker warns his star clients against putting complete faith in security guards, a profession which "gave us the Son of Sam killer, the assassin of John Lennon" as well as thousands of arsonists and rapists. Nor should they put much faith in court orders to restrain a violent partner: studies suggest in half of the cases, they may provoke more violence. The core of his job is in deciding when the threats are becoming serious. He took it seriously when a man sent a client a dead coyote, killed "because it was beautiful like you".

As he reminds his clients, doing nothing is often the best option. "If you tell someone 10 times that you don't want to talk to him, you are talking to him — nine times more than you wanted to."

It may be impossible to follow all the de Becker lessons and still go out to a 24-hour store to buy your papers, as Versace did, let alone to become a figurehead and friend throughout Miami's gay milieu. But in the wake of his murder, the de Becker lessons are likely to get more disciples.

PA / FRED PROUSER / RAY STUBBLEBINE / REUTER

Celebrity targets: John Lennon with Yoko; Jodie Foster, subject of a gunman's obsession, and below, Brooke Shields, advised by Gavin de Becker

Doubts on future of house that Gianni built

From John Phillips in Rome

AS Italians mourned the shooting of Gianni Versace yesterday, commentators questioned whether his siblings, Donatella and Santo, will be able to maintain the empire's money-making capacity without his creativity.

Newspapers such as *La Repubblica* paid tribute to Versace for turning a small family firm in his native Calabria in the impoverished South into an international group with an estimated turnover last year of 1,700 billion lire ($1 billion). "Gianni Versace Spa is a company typical of Italian family capitalism," the daily said. "Versace's development was dizzy, irreverent and even disorganised: the brand was used on perfume, furnishing, carpets and porcelain."

His family did not immediately disclose whether he had made a will. But the financial daily *Il Sole 24ore* noted that, whatever the provisions, the firm would remain under family control. Gianni had a 45 per cent holding in the main company, but his brother, Santo, had 3 per cent while his sister, Donatella, had 20 per cent.

However, financial experts said Versace's death might delay plans by Santo, the financial wizard of the trio, to float the company. He aimed to double the group consolidated turnover by the end of the millennium.

The group is the second largest Italian fashion exporter after Giorgio Armani, with 80 per cent of the 196 turnover coming from overseas markets.

Il Sole 24ore said Donatella was the "natural heir" of Gianni, in that she is an established designer in her own right through the Versace subsidiary company *Versus* that markets her distinctive designs. Donatella "showed a good deal of talent", said the Milan business daily, adding that she had overseen designing in the company when Gianni was incapacitated by a mysterious illness variously reported to be a tumour or Aids.

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Gigolo serial killer's descent into darkness

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

STUNNED by the killing of Gianni Versace, America is asking itself one question: how could Andrew Phillip Cunanan, the well-bred son of a wealthy stockbroker and a Roman Catholic mother, have grown into a serial murderer now on the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted" list.

As a boy, Cunanan wanted for nothing. He lived in a loving, supportive home, went to the best school in town, and was given a sports car on his sixteenth birthday.

Yet the 28-year-old Cunanan, who went on to become a homosexual gigolo, is now accused of four murders beside Versace's, all between April 29 and May 9.

The first was of Jeffrey Trail, 28, a former lieutenant in the US Navy. He was found murdered in a Minneapolis townhouse, his bloody body wrapped tightly in a rug. His head had been bashed in with a claw-hammer. Trail is thought to have been one of Cunanan's many lovers, as was the man in whose house the body was found.

He was an architect named David Madson, 33. Five days after Trail's murder, Madson's body was found in a derelict farmhouse, his body riddled with bullets. In the days before the murder, friends report that Cunanan gave Madson a gold Cartier watch. This gesture, they say, was typical of the suspected killer.

Cunanan next stole Madson's Jeep and drove to Chicago. There, on May 4, he is believed to have claimed his next victim, a 72-year-old property tycoon named Lee Miglin. He was found in his own garage, his throat cut with a saw, his chest punctured with pruning shears and his head bound tightly in masking tape. In what was becoming a pattern of ghoulish car swaps, the Jeep was abandoned and exchanged for Miglin's expensive Lexus car. Cunanan drove several hundred miles east, to New Jersey. There, at the Finn's Point National Cemetery in Salem County, he is believed to have picked his next victim at random.

The four other men believed to have been killed this year by Andrew Cunanan, clockwise from top left, Jeffrey Trail, David Madson, William Reese and Lee Miglin

William Reese, 45, the cemetery's unremarkable — and heterosexual — caretaker, was found shot in the head. His body had been tossed into a shallow grave. Cunanan abandoned the Lexus here and took Reese's red pickup. This is the vehicle police that was found near the scene of Versace's murder.

Cunanan's descent into darkness is both remarkable and disturbing. He was born into an affluent home in San Diego, California: his Eurasian father was a former naval officer who turned to stockbroking. His mother was deeply religious and took young Cunanan to Mass.

At school he flaunted his homosexuality, often boasting to his classmates that he was being "kept" by a number of wealthy "sugar daddies". He was popular, and in his graduation year was voted the boy "least likely to be forgotten".

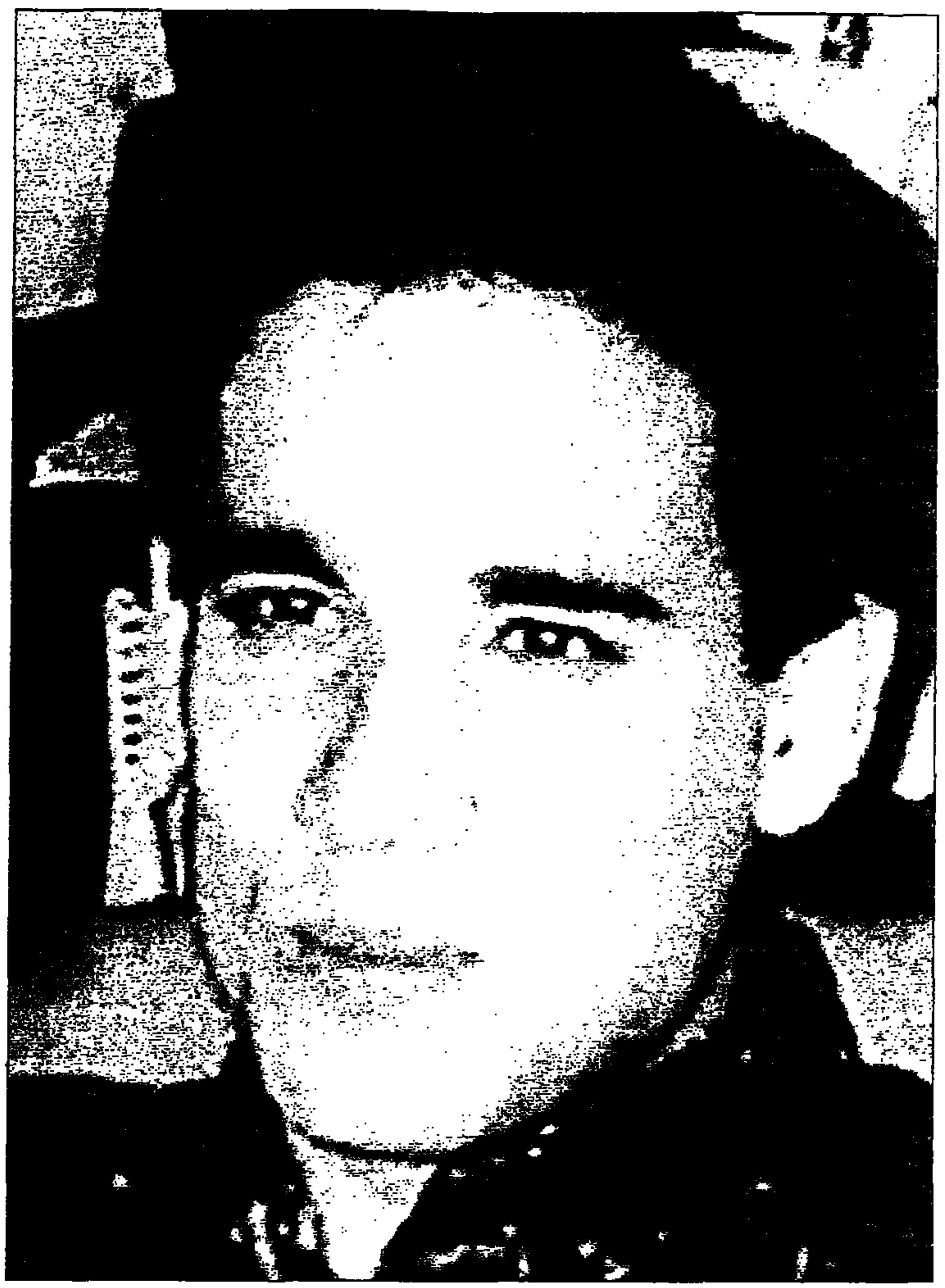
Chillingly, the caption Cunanan chose for his school yearbook picture was *après moi, le déluge* — after me, disaster.

Disaster struck Cunanan in 1988, when his father fled to the Philippines with every last cent in the family's bank account. This was the turning point in his life. The sudden impoverishment of his lifestyle led him, still only 19, to seek work as a male prostitute.

He was very successful. He made an attractive companion for older Californian homosexuals. An acquaintance has described him as clever, quick-witted and polyglot, "not your average buffed male bimbo on the make".

Unsurprisingly, he appears to have earned the disapproval of his religious mother, who left California shortly afterwards to eke out a modest existence in Illinois. She has not seen her son for years.

FBI investigators believe that he might have contracted Aids and that a combination of panic, anger and resentment may have driven him to "avenge himself" on other gay men. Days before Trail's murder in April, he told friends he was going to Minneapolis to "settle some business". He invited a select few to a last, lavish supper — for which he paid — and left the same night on a flight out of Los Angeles.


Andrew Phillip Cunanan, suspected of a cross-country killing spree culminating in the Versace murder

Fear strikes gay bars after 'Renaissance prince of South Beach' is slain

FROM TOM RHODES
IN SOUTH BEACH, MIAMI

THE fear was tangible in the gay bars of South Beach. Bodybuilders at doors, muted music and anxious faces provided the most telling signs of how the murder of Gianni Versace has already affected the American Riviera he helped to inspire.

At Twist, a gay nightclub frequented by the Italian fashion designer, there was a sense of gloom and concern that Andrew Cunanan, the alleged killer, could strike again. FBI photographs of the serial murderer were passed silently around the bar as its patrons analysed them in disbelief. "He looks very attractive. It's very frightening for us," said Scott Wilson, 36, a former model. "The gay party scene down here is very drug orientated. People out in clubs or getting high are apt to do things they would never consider if they were sober. We are an easy target for this guy."

Versace's murder on the steps of his Italianate palazzo the previous day has cast the deepest shadow over this community, a gay enclave in the United States rivalled only by the Castro district of San Francisco. His high fashion, glamour and exuberant taste had inspired hordes of young men to leave the dull plains of the Midwest and the metropolitan districts of the East Coast for the new bohemia of southern Florida.

He had been one of the pioneers who helped to create an international hotspot from the once dilapidated Deco District. "He was like our President, almost a god," said Mark Brye, 31. "The man held the Beach together."

At The Casa Casuarina, the mansion in front of which Versace was shot dead, he would host cosy dinners for the celebrity elite, from Madonna to Sylvester Stallone. Visiting kings and queens of fashion and Hollywood would never escape his attention or that of Antonio D'Amico, his long-time companion and personal trainer.

Versace had turned the white-washed citadel into a memorial to Miami's elegance in the Thirties. Employing an architect from Washington and designers from Italy, he bought and renovated the building in 1992. He spent $3.7 million (£2.2 million) alone razing a neighbouring hotel to make way for the Italian garden and frescoed swimming pool. For his fidelity to the Italian Gothic and Classical Renaissance, Versace had won a preservation award from the board of the Florida Trust. It was, he once said, the only place he could relax and feel safe, an irony not lost on the hundreds who held vigil outside the property yesterday.

Flowers, candles and simple messages of love had been delivered throughout the night. Beautiful bronzed women held hands with gay men in tearful tribute to a man they regarded as the Renaissance prince of South Beach. He would regularly walk alone down Ocean Drive, stopping at the News Café to buy newspapers and magazines and perhaps an orange juice. On the day he died, Versace had taken his regular stroll and, stopping at the café, had spent $15 on a typically wide selection of magazines, ranging from *Vogue* and *People* to *The New Yorker* and *Business Week*. He used to say he enjoyed reading Proust and Dostoevsky, the author of the favourite Versace epithet: "Beauty will save the world."

Ron McLean, the café's manager, said Versace "epitomised everything that people love about the Beach".

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Koreans exchange border fire

Troops cross truce line as North reaches flashpoint

By Tim Hames and Our Foreign Staff

IN the worst incident of its kind in many years, North Korean troops yesterday penetrated the military demarcation line with South Korea that has marked the border since the end of the Korean War 44 years ago.

North Koreans also fired artillery shells at a Southern guard post.

The two Koreas accused each other of provocation on the heavily fortified border, the world's last Cold War flashpoint. Pyongyang said several North Korean soldiers were wounded. About 37,000 American troops are stationed in the South but no US forces were involved.

Pyongyang said North Korean soldiers were carrying out normal reconnaissance when South Korean troops opened fire. "From this attack, several soldiers were injured and several guard posts were destroyed," it added.

Western analysts would like to hope that this was an isolated incident. However, there is a significant chance that optimism will prove misplaced. North Korea is in a state of terminal decline. Any assessment of the world's most secretive society must be tentative, but the signs are that it will prove impossible to maintain the status quo.

Seoul accused the North of heightening border tensions with serious provocations. "We strongly warn that we will never tolerate any provocation." Lieutenant-General Joung Young Moo said.

General Joung said the incident began when seven Northern soldiers crossed the military demarcation line that runs through the middle of the 2½-mile-wide demilitarised zone. Southern troops fired shots in the air after broadcasting warning messages by loudspeaker. North Korean forces responded with about 80 rounds of riflefire at two guard posts, which returned a similar burst of fire.

Yeo Sook Dong, chief spokesman for South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters that North Korean forces then fired ten artillery rounds that landed near a Southern guard post.

South Korean troops responded with one round from a recoilless rifle.

Two years of floods have destroyed a North Korean agricultural sector that was already extremely weak. Signs of advanced malnutrition have been witnessed and official rations have fallen to 100 grams (less than four ounces) of food per day.

Conditions are thought to be worse in the mountainous northern provinces. Grass and bark have become part of the national diet. Starvation on a vast scale is possible this summer.

The industrial sector is in a similarly disastrous state. Starved of resources by the late dictator, Kim Il Sung, who diverted all available funds to his pursuit of nuclear weapons, the factories that remain are thought to be operating at barely a quarter of capacity.

Political uncertainty compounds the present crisis. Last week saw the third anniversary of Kim Il Sung's death. It had been thought that the end of this official mourning period would see his son, Kim Jong Il, formally elevated to the posts of head of state and General Secretary of the Korean Workers' Party. The silence from Pyongyang suggests a protracted power struggle.

The country would appear to face three unattractive choices: War with South Korea and by extension the United States; a negotiated peace that would require the retraction of five decades of party propaganda; or complete economic and political collapse with South Korea absorbing what remained.

Few believe that the North could hope to win any serious military encounter although sheer force of numbers might allow it an initial advantage.

Collapse would appear the most likely scenario. North Korea's leadership has probably made the same calculation. Its best chance lies in postponing that moment. A programme of escalating belligerence, stopping just short of war, might seem the best means of extracting concessions — food and aid — from the outside world.

Kim Il Sung: struggle for succession goes on

KATHI ZWELLWEGER/REUTER

North Korean children suffering from malnutrition at a nursery in the town of Huichon. Of the 80 children aged between one and five, 20 are orphans

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kazakh crew flew 'too low'

Delhi: An investigation into the world's worst mid-air disaster, in which 349 people were killed, has blamed the crew of a Kazakh airliner for the collision. The Press Trust of India, quoting official sources, said the inquiry led by a senior judge concluded that the Kazakh Ilyushin 6 "was not at its assigned level of 15,000ft and came down to the flight level of 14,000ft" resulting in the crash with a Saudi Boeing 747 on November 12 near Delhi. *(AFP)*

Hun Sen's man

Phnom Penh: Hun Sen, Cambodian Second Prime Minister, tried to legitimise his ousting of Prince Ranariddh, First Prime Minister, by putting Ung Huot, Foreign Minister, in his post. *(AP)*

Lethal injection

Shanghai: Two Chinese criminals have been executed by lethal injection, the first time China has used the method as an alternative to the firing squad, the *Xinmin Evening News* reported. *(Reuter)*

Moi for talks

Nairobi: President Moi of Kenya will meet opposition leaders seeking reforms next week. Campaigners said the talks were not enough to abandon plans to put pressure on the President. *(Reuter)*

Turtle dilemma

Munich: Bavaria is looking for homes for 1,300 eight-inch American turtles seized from traffickers. They cannot be released as Europe is not their natural habitat. The US has refused to take them. *(AFP)*

Novelist attacks toleration of racism

From Deborah Collcutt in Frankfurt

GÜNTHER GRASS, the German author, has accused police and prosecutors in the northern town of Lübeck of failing in their duty to find the perpetrators behind a series of neo-Nazi attacks on churches in the area.

In an interview in today's *Die Woche* newspaper, he accuses Manfred Kanther, the Interior Minister, of encouraging racism by refusing to reform either the asylum laws or ancient citizenship rules for children born to foreigners.

Herr Grass, who lives in Lübeck, said by continually introducing new conditions for deporting asylum seekers, Herr Kanther had "set the guideline for what had happened in towns like Lübeck", where over the past month churches and rectories have been attacked.

Investigators conclude that they were all racially motivated. Herr Grass, 70, whose office was recently defaced with swastikas, described police attempts to track down those behind the *xenophobic* attacks as "disgraceful".

Grass: office has been defaced by swastikas

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Rameses the Great finds refuge from dirty Cairo

By Christopher Walker, Middle East Correspondent

PHARAOH Rameses II is going home. After years of being battered by the fumes of Cairo, the landmark 60-tonne rose granite statue of the great warrior-king is to be returned to its original base in the tranquil village of Mit Rahina, site of the ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis.

The decision was announced by Farouk Hosni, the Culture Minister, after years of heated debate about where the 30ft colossus should be transported to escape the damaging surroundings outside Cairo's central railway station, where it was transported in 1954 on the orders of President Nasser. The imposing statue had stood in front of a temple for more than 3,000 years before Nasser, who had overthrown the monarchy, ordered its relocation as a symbol of ancient Egyptian power.

Mr Hosni announced yesterday that within three months, the torso — already cracked from pollution and humidity — will be returned, encased in a metal frame to avoid damage during transport. For years the Government has dithered about choosing a new site, with officials joking that suggestions about a location were as numerous as the Pharaoh's wives, said to have totalled 66. One Egyptologist proposed putting the statue on an island in the Nile, and a journalist wanted to put it by the Giza pyramids.

Rameses II, also known as Rameses the Great, ruled Egypt for 66 years, ending in 1224 BC and brought the country great power and wealth. He erected more buildings and colossal statues than any other Pharaoh.

At Mit Rahina, Rameses will find a quiet village at the edge of the desert rimmed with date palms and swaying grass.

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Jospin retaliates for Bastille Day attack by Chirac

From Ben Macintyre in Paris

A BARELY civil war of words broke out yesterday between the two most powerful men in France, when Lionel Jospin, the Prime Minister, sternly reminded President Chirac to stick to his constitutional role and the head of state, equally sharply, told M Jospin that he would continue to express his views at will.

M Jospin's veiled warning came after strong criticisms of the Socialist Government's policies made by the President in his Bastille Day television interview this week.

"Following the statements of the President on July 14, the Prime Minister recalled in Cabinet the prerogatives which constitutionally are those of the President and Prime Minister," M Jospin's spokesman said, in reaction to M Chirac's statement that he had "a pre-eminent role, the last word" in politics.

The Elysée Palace promptly shot back, stating that "the President of the Republic will continue to tell the French people, when he judges it necessary, what he thinks about the important issues for the future of France."

The conservative President and left-wing Prime Minister have been locked into a difficult and ill-defined "cohabitation" since the centre-right Government was ousted in parliamentary elections six weeks ago, but the relationship has soured even more rapidly than expected.

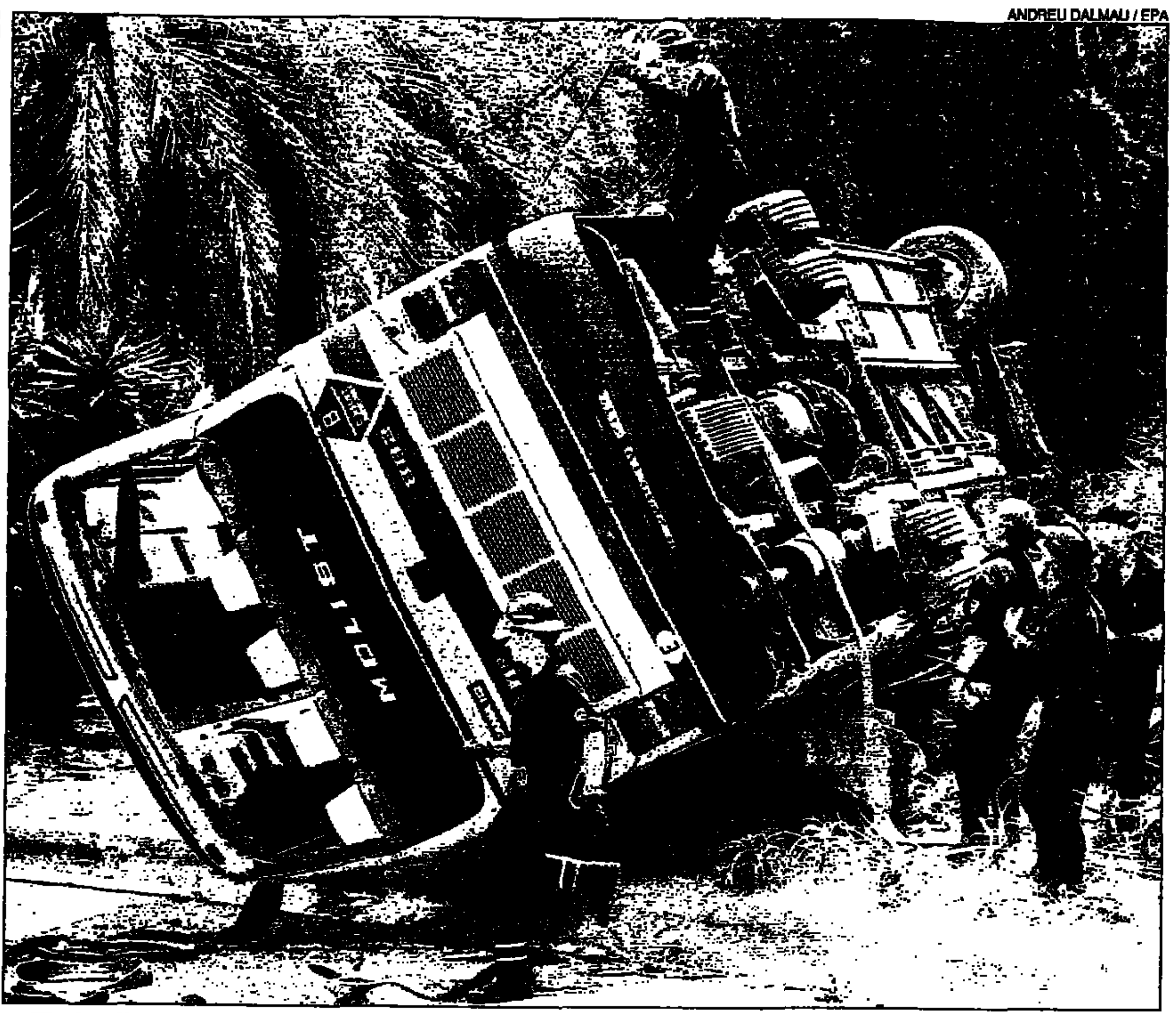
While both President and Prime Minister invoke the French constitution, and M Chirac repeatedly insists he wants a "constructive cohabitation", the constitution is vague on precisely where the power of one leader ends and the other begins.

In his Bastille Day address, described as "an ambush", a "demolition job" and "a bomb" by the press, M Chirac attacked a range of Socialist policies on issues ranging from privatisation to immigration to taxes. His remarks evoked glee among the Centre-Right and fury on the Left, with charges that the President was acting as a "de facto" leader of the Opposition.

Nicolas Sarkozy, spokesman for the Gaullist RPR party, replied yesterday that, if the President was showing his true political colours, he was only acting in the tradition of the late President Mitterrand during two earlier periods of power-sharing.

The new Prime Minister "would do well to remember the behaviour on a good many occasions of François Mitterrand, who never hesitated to show that a Socialist he was, and a Socialist he remained."

ANDREU DALMAU / EPA



The bus lies on its side after the crash on a hillside near Barcelona. Two tourists and the driver were badly hurt

Britons injured in Spanish bus crash

From Giles Tremlett in Madrid

TWENTY-SIX British tourists were injured yesterday when their bus overturned on a tight bend on mountains above Barcelona.

Police said that two of the Britons were seriously hurt — one suffered head wounds, the other a broken collar bone. The driver was also badly hurt.

Several children and elderly people were among those injured. The tour group was on its way to see a castle and the stadium where the 1992 Olympics were held.

The remaining 20 passengers were taken back to the cruise liner *Sapphire* in which they had travelled to Barcelona.

☐ Eta crackdown: Supporters of the Basque separatist group Eta will be forbidden from shouting *"Viva Eta!"* and painting slogans under proposed laws to penalise those who defend terrorism or take part in violent protests. The move follows the murder of Miguel Angel Blanco.

French deny rift with US over more Serb raids

From Ian Brodie in Washington

A TRANSATLANTIC squabble blew up yesterday over a report that France had objected to Nato plans for a second raid to round up accused war criminals in Bosnia as too risky.

The French Government insisted there was no basis for the report on the front page of *The New York Times* that France had declined to take part in the proposed operation.

In Washington, Clinton Administration officials did not directly rebut the report, saying they could not comment on possible future operations. They did say there was no rift with the French.

According to the report, America has been pressing Nato allies to arrest prominent Bosnian Serbs charged with war crimes, many of whom live near Pale, the Bosnian Serb capital, an area patrolled by an international force under the command of French officers.

The newspaper quoted senior American officials as saying the continued freedom of Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb President, and Ratko Mladic, former military commander, undermined efforts to build a durable peace. The sources declined to say if the pair were targets of the proposed operation.

According to American and French officials, Paris was not opposed to the arrest of prominent Bosnian Serbs wanted for war crimes, but felt the plan was too risky. American officials believed the French decision might not be final, as they have "gone back and forth" about future operations in their sector, the newspaper said.

There is validity to the argument that a follow-up raid would be hazardous, given that the capture of one accused war criminal by British troops and the killing of another had tipped Nato's hand, presumably prompting Bosnian Serbs to reinforce security.

Yesterday's tiff, caused by American officials apparently portraying the French as balking at another raid, comes when Franco-American relations are already rather strained. Disagreements surfaced at the Denver summit and in Madrid where France wanted Romania admitted to Nato but Mr Clinton refused.

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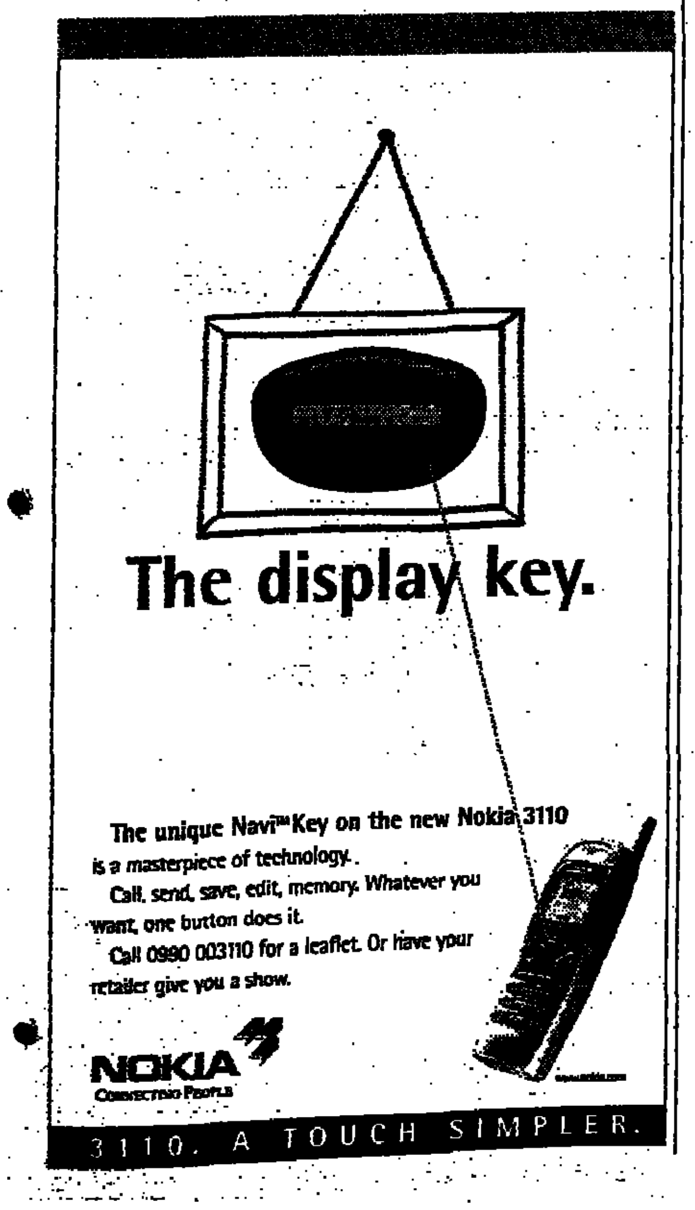

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Dr Thomas Stuttaford on research into a skin disease; a heart warning; creaky knees; a baby bonus; and an old remedy

The pain and shame of psoriasis

DOUG MORRISON

The late playwright Dennis Potter, pictured with actress Gina Bellman, suffered from psoriasis

Psoriasis, the skin disease in which new skin is created ten times faster in some areas of the body than is usual, results in raised, dry, red and scaly patches.

It affects 2 per cent of the population and has a tendency to form at points where there is constant friction or minor trauma, such as on the elbows, knees, the front of the legs and on the scalp. Psoriasis is also a nuisance where clothing is tight and the skin is tender, such as beneath the belt around the navel and in the genital and peri-anal area.

When psoriasis attacks the fingernails, the condition is all too obvious as the nails become thickened, pitted and raised from their beds. One in ten patients with the disease develops a form of arthritis similar to rheumatoid arthritis, and for these people psoriasis is not only a cosmetic problem, but one that causes pain and disability.

From biblical times until after the late Middle Ages, doctors did not distinguish between psoriasis and the skin manifestations of leprosy. Sufferers were then treated like lepers, the public was warned of their impending presence, and they had to take Communion separately, discreetly hidden away at the side of the chancel so that their blotchy, scaly faces and hands could be kept out of sight of the healthy congregation.

When the disease became too widespread, *patients with psoriasis* were incarcerated in hospitals for lepers.

However enlightened most people are nowadays about disfigurement, a minority is still repelled by any skin *disease, particulary if it affects the* face, and patients with psoriasis become acutely conscious of their appearance. Not surprisingly, this self-consciousness affects their sex lives. Research from the University of Western Ontario, recently published in the *International Journal of Dermatology*, found that more than 40 per cent of patients with psoriasis said that it affected their libido, particularly those whose patches were widespread, affected the groin, or where the disease was complicated by arthritis.

Only one in four of the patients whose sex life was blighted said that this was the result of their partner's reaction to the disease.

Patients whose love life had suffered because of psoriasis were those who were also more likely to be depressed and to drink heavily. In these cases it was difficult to know whether the loss of libido was the result of the skin disease or whether it was a manifestation of the heavier drinking and change in mood.

Although the cause of psoriasis is unknown, other than that the disease is in part familial, it has been shown that it is worse if the patient drinks too much alcohol, is anxious or depressed. It is also worse in patients who take beta-blockers to treat their high blood pressure. All these factors may not have been taken fully into account in the survey.

Psoriasis is improved by exposure to sunlight or by a change of mood. The effect of both of these factors *provides a possible, logical explanation* for some of the miraculous cures of leprosy which have followed a pilgrimage. The combination of exposure to sun while walking to a shrine, coupled with the sense of relief *derived from worshipping, whether* at Walsingham or Lourdes, in those who have previously been tormented by their anxieties could well have accounted for the occasional miracle cure.

Psoriasis may not be curable by traditional means but it can be treated, and this treatment is constantly improving.

Newer preparations such as Dovonex, Calcipotriol and *Curatoderm tacalcitol are less staining* than coal tar products or Dithranol in Lassar's paste. Micanol, which should be applied only to tough skin, is less messy than Dithranol. Light treatment with nar*row band UVB is a simpler pro*cedure than the old-style PUVA regime.

Topical steroids may be needed in some cases, but the skin is likely to become resistant to them.

Dr Malcolm Rustin, a consultant dermatologist at the Royal Free Hospital in London, which continues an active research programme into psoriasis, says: "The outlook for patients is constantly improving. *New products are being developed* which are not only more effective but more pleasant to use. Even so, we don't neglect old remedies and are just starting a clinical trial to determine the value of extracts of native *British herbs in the treatment of* psoriasis.

Why folic acid is good for the heart

> The higher the level, the greater the chance of disaster

Dinner party guests hoping to stave off their inevitable appointment with the grim *reaper should not only* beware of butter and rich sauces, but should also be eating their asparagus, broccoli and lentils; choosing liver rather than hamburgers and, *so long as they* are dining later in the day, drinking large quantities of orange or other fruit juice.

A preoccupation with the level of cholesterol is no longer enough, for homocysteine is every bit as important a factor in the battle to defeat heart attacks and other cardio-vascular diseases. It has taken 20 years for doctors, and the general public, to become convinced of the importance of maintaining a low blood cholesterol level in patients at risk of heart disease. One reason why there have been so many sceptics is that statistics show that high levels of cholesterol only account for a comparatively small proportion, about 20 per cent, of heart attacks or other vascular disasters. One of the important influences on the cardio-vascular system which is now being thoroughly investigated is the level of homocysteine. The higher the level of this amino acid, the greater the chance of disaster.

Dr Christopher Schorah, senior lecturer in chemical pathology at Leeds University, who has spent many years investigating homocysteine and the role of folic acid in cardio-vascular disease, says: "It has been found that homocysteine is an even more important risk factor in cardio-vascular disease than is raised cholesterol, and it is an independent factor in the determination of the likelihood of someone having a heart attack, a stroke, or suffering obstruction of a *peripheral* artery such as those leading to the legs or feet."

High levels of homocysteine may be the result of a hereditary deficiency in the enzymes involved in its metabolism, kidney disease, or a lack in the diet of folic acid, vitamin B12 or vitamin B6. Folic acid is *found in nature in fresh* fruit, vegetables and liver or these sources can be supplemented by folic acid tablets found at any chemist. Except in absurd overdosage it has no side effects.

Folic acid deficiency is a very important cause of raised homocysteine and the differences in the amount of folic acid in the diet may account for the wide disparity in the incidence of heart disease found in different socio-economic groups. A rich man's diet, despite the sauces and the butter, may cause less heart *disease than* would be expected because it is also rich in folates and the affluent will therefore have lower levels of homocysteine than the poor. Dr Schorah's research has shown that folate blood levels in the better off may be 40 per cent higher than in the less affluent.

As increased folate levels reduce homocysteine an obvious answer would seem to fortify common foods with folic acid. Already many breakfast cereals are enriched with the vitamin, and market research has shown that these are bought by more than 70 per cent of households. The next step, which has been firmly advocated in a leader in the *British Medical Journal*, written by Professor Nicholas Wald of St Bartholomew's Hospital and the Royal London Hospital, is for flour also to be supplemented with folic acid. Government approval for this is awaited.

A habit that was painful

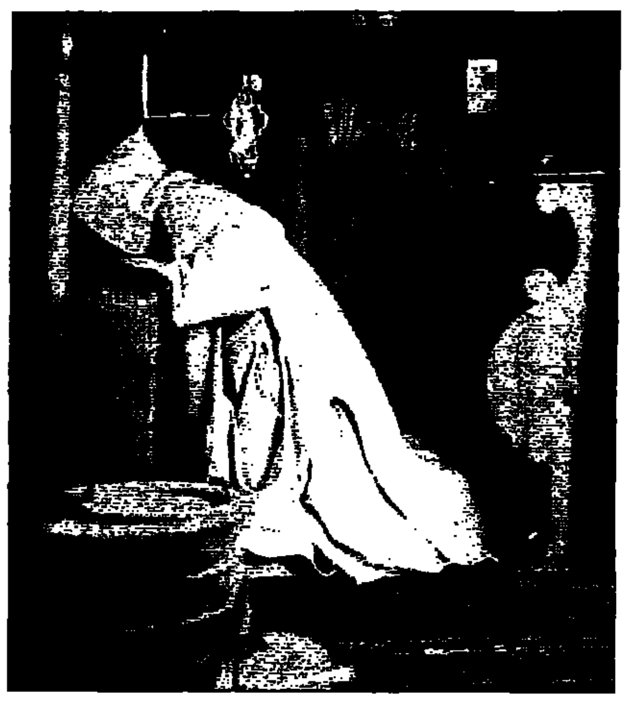
SCIENTISTS have been studying the skeletons of monks that have lain beneath the crypt of St Stephen's monastery in Jeru*salem for the past 1,500 years.* The *British Medical Journal* reports that the skeletons showed that most of the monks had suffered from osteoarthritis of the knee *joints during their lives.*

The *BMJ* suggests that this osteoarthritis was probably the result of constant kneeling at prayers; presumably a condition akin to *the arthritis suffered by mod*ern electricians who develop it when they are working in cramped conditions while installing wiring.

Other possibilities *would be that the hard work* in the fields and monastery gardens was too much for the monks' knees. A less charitable thought is that they might have been overfed in the refectory. Knees are seven times more likely than hips to be affected by obesity.

Whatever the cause, the monks had to suffer the pain without any efficient anti-inflammatory drugs. This pain may have made them miserable, but the absence of *the drugs meant that they* were spared the hazard of peptic ulceration or haemorrhage.

Both conditions, the most worrying of the side-*effects of this invaluable* group of drugs, are less likely if either Arthrotec, which contains the gastro-intestinal protective Misoprostol, or Mobic, which works in a *slightly different way*, are prescribed. Though more expensive, the difference in safety is striking and makes the cost worthwhile.



Constant kneeling can lead to osteoarthritis

Twins can provide cancer protection

THE Siamese twins who were operated on at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London are now home, and doing well, in Manchester. The operation was a great success, but it wasn't quite as simple as *has been assumed.*

The babies were joined at the liver, which is comparatively easily divided and very quickly regenerates.

But although the hearts were separate, the pericardial sac — the bag in which the heart lies — was *shared* between the *twins. A new sac had to be fashioned* for one of the babies.

The mother now has two consolations. She has the pleasure of the company of pair of healthy babies, as well as the reassurance that having twins means that *she is one-third less likely to develop* cancer of the breast than other mothers.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund recently reported in the British Journal of Cancer that a study of 4,800 Swedish women showed that mothers of twins had *an increased resistance* to this tumour.

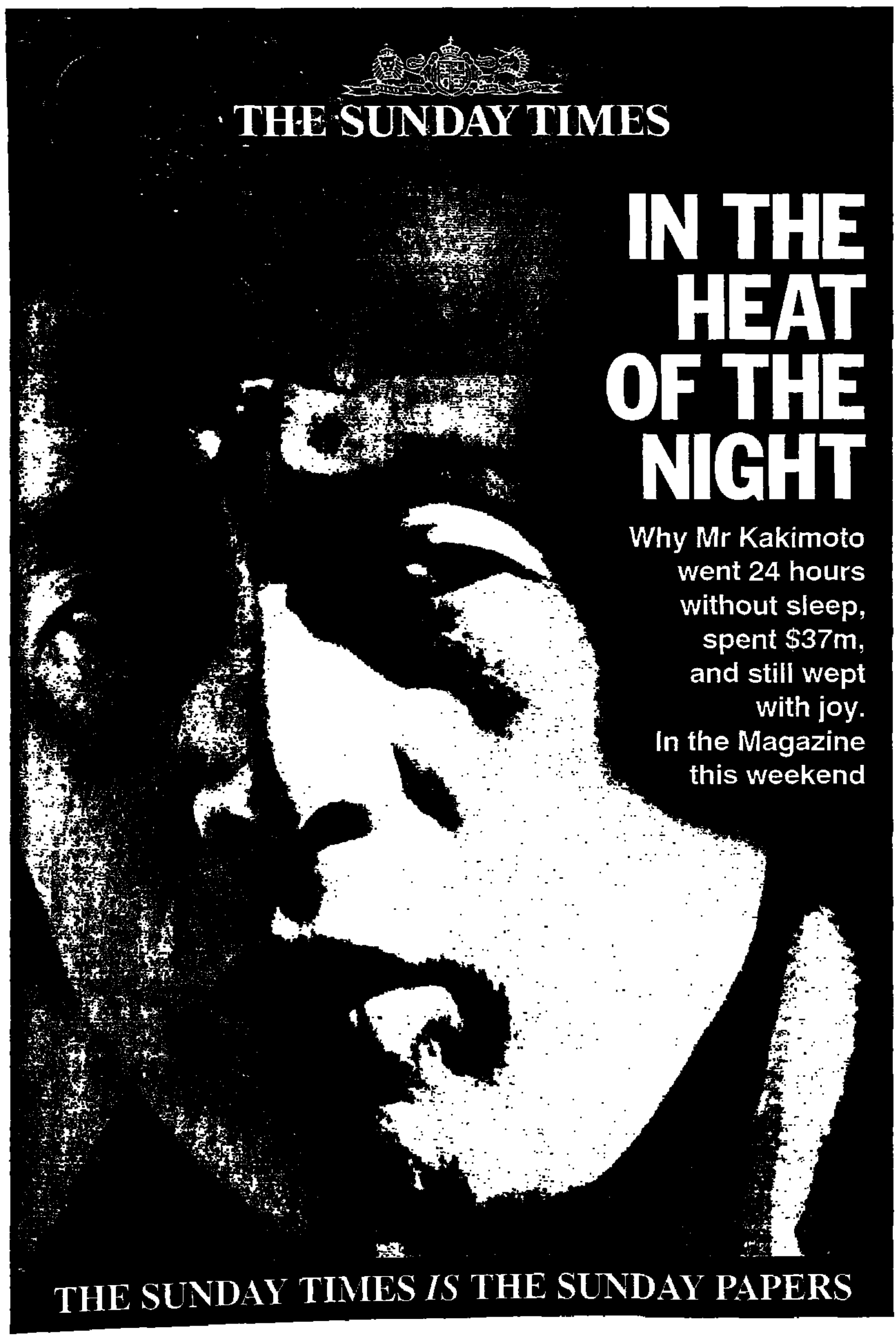
Researchers from the Fund are now trying to isolate the factors involved in twin births which provide this protection, and also to find out whether the immunity is present equally in fraternal or identical *births.*

A foul-tasting memory

A DISTINGUISHED doctor who is now recovering from prostatic surgery was amazed when the nursing staff not only lacked a mixture of potassium citrate in the ward *cupboard to alleviate his pain* on urinating, but had never heard of it. Thirty years ago, the standard treatment of mild cystitis was to render the urine alkaline with regular doses of this foul-tasting mixture, which could just about be tolerated if it was combined with concentrated orange juice. In those days, ready-prepared Mist. Pot. Cit. was held in every ward in huge bottles ready for dispensing by the nursing staff. Now a course of antibiotics is prescribed.

The *most recent antibiotic* regime to be introduced for the treatment of simple cystitis is Ciproxin, a small 100mg tablet taken twice a day for three days. This dose is usually enough to treat *simple* cystitis, commonly the result of infection with *E-coli*, so that the patient's comfort is restored, and the invading bacteria eliminated.

*It is essential that a speci*men of urine is sent for culture in the laboratory at the start of treatment so that if the infection does not clear, the sensitivity of any organism is known, and other tests *to* exclude a chlamydial or gonococcal urethritis, sexually transmitted diseases, may be undertaken.



THE SUNDAY TIMES

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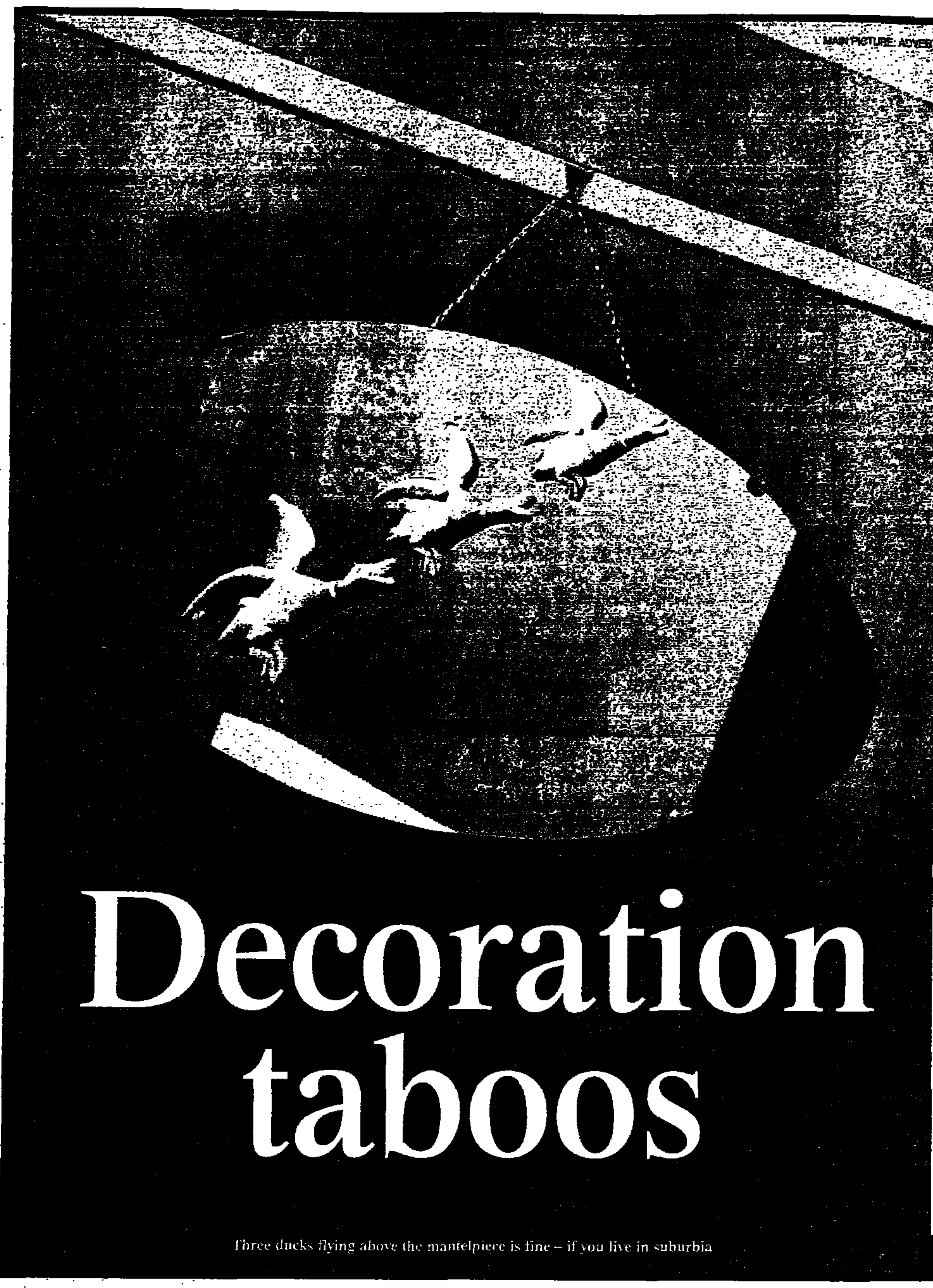
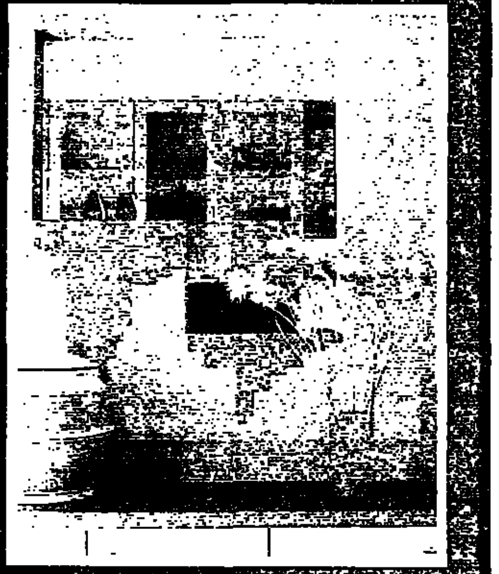


Decoration taboos

Three ducks flying above the mantelpiece is fine – if you live in suburbia

Silver-framed photographs are taboo

Dining tables must be covered



Half-tiled rooms are a sign of weakness

There are rules to decoration and they do not include Christmas trees or coloured candles. But if you live in the suburbs, flying ducks are fine, says the designer **David Hicks**

Taboos haven't changed. Nancy Mitford in her essay written 40 years ago on U and Non-U was simply bringing back 18th-century ideas of behaviour, banishing Victorian affectation. The same rules apply in decoration.

People might accuse me of breaking colour codes, but I have only been looking at the most traditional users of colour. I found shocking pink, puce and scarlet in the robes of the Roman Catholic Church. Violet seats and scarlet walls were the result of seeing scarlet lipstick worn with a violet silk dress. It may appear modern, but it is reimposing an older order.

Also, now that we mix old and new, the dictates of the time don't necessarily apply. My Louis XVI chairs are not covered in dainty woven silk but tweed. Obviously, Directoire chairs would not originally have had Thai silk on them, but does that matter? I have also started using violet leather on chairs instead of damask.

Indecision is at the root of most bad rooms. Rugs laid on carpet are irritating (they lack style) and they creep. Half-tiled rooms are a sign of weakness, as are variegated plants or two-tone cars. My job is to help people who can't decide.

Three ducks flying above the "mantelpiece" (rather than the chimneypiece) is fine, as are cocktail cabinets, if you live in suburbia. Drinks should always be on a marble or stone-topped table. Cocktails, like so many other things, are a dreadful import from America. My father, born in 1863, never would have contemplated gin.

Framed reproductions of paintings are definitely taboo. One might just about get away with an Old Master drawing from a Christie's catalogue, properly line-mounted and framed.

Silver-framed photographs, even of the Royal Family, are taboo in a drawing-room but gilded silver is OK. Gilt is all right for *objets de vertu*, but they must be small. Silver is for the dining room and *nowhere* else.

I can't bear polished mahogany dining tables. They must be covered. I like small patterns or white damask table cloths. Bare tables came in in the 1920s — and for me are quite Out.

Candles, whether real or electric, should be long. One would only see short candles towards the end of the evening. One should *never* see the source of light; candles should always be shaded, and never any colour but white.

I hate cyclamen in pots and Christmas trees are beyond the pale. If you have to have something, bring in a wonderful branch. Paint it and put lights on it, but never allow one of those awful needle-dropping trees in the house.

Bright blue swimming-pools are vulgar. I have a black one as it looks most natural. At night, when lit, it appears like a black opal. Don't have too much mown grass.

The nouveau riche love wrought iron. I hate it except all that Tijoux metalwork at Hampton Court and Chatsworth. Picture rails are totally taboo.

Men in the suburbs of remote places like Maastricht seem to have caught the habit of carrying handbags. I suppose it must seem terribly exciting to them.

Cars should be black, white or grey, or possibly very dark green. Cars ruin everything — architecture and country. The Duke of Wellington's resistance to trains looks very wise in retrospect.

Goodbye! Englishmen don't shake hands.

- *This article first appeared in* Antique Interiors International

> Candles should be long and never any colour but white

BREAKING THE RULES

WELL, excuse me. I imagined, when I scattered my silver photograph frames with careful artlessness around the sitting room of our flat in London, that I was decorating within the bounds of good taste. David Hicks, the interior designer, would disagree. Siver-framed photographs in the drawing room are taboo, he opines.

To the list of things he can't bear, he adds polished mahogany dining tables; they should be covered with a table cloth. Oh dear, mine is uncovered and what is more, I spend an inordinate amount of time polishing it to make it even more lustrous. Candles should always be long and shaded. Mine surely cannot be long enough at six inches.

But my worst fault must be that I love Christmas trees. They are, according to Mr Hicks, "beyond the pale". Mr Hicks would hate my flat, especially at Christmas when it smells sweetly of pine and the silver photograph frames glow in the guttering candlelight of my stunted candles.

The colour of your car can let you down, too. Black, white, grey or very dark green at a pinch. Mr Hicks has a determined view on the colour but not about the make. The owner of a British racing green Ford Capri presumably would be welcome to park outside the Hicks pile.

I expect he would find much to complain about in the houses I have visited for this newspaper's property pages. He abhors the bright blue swimming-pool. One house not only had a pool of the bright blue variety, it also had an image of a shark picked out in mosaic. A loft apartment broke the rule on no framed reproductions several times over. In an effort to fill the vast amount of wall space, the owners had covered one wall with a patchwork quilt effect of these prints.

Another house that would have had him spluttering is the Duchess of York's former home. It had the lot; the blue pool, the polished table, the silver photograph frames in the sitting room. Mr Hicks states that even photographs of the Royal Family are banned in this respect.

I WONDER what he would have to say about the silver-framed photographs that Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother has strewn about her drawing room in Clarence House. I am pleased to report, however, that she has not sinned on the framed reproduction front.

If I were to have imposed Mr Hicks's code on every house I have entered, they would nearly all have failed, like me. Also, like me, most owners probably don't much care about the rules and will continue to suit themselves. I stand by my hostas (variegated), which he deplores, my candles (stumpy) and I can't wait for Christmas when, after lunch at our shiny table, we sit around our abominable tree.

KATHERINE BERGEN

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A day for Scotland's bravehearts

Magnus Linklater on the birth pangs of an Edinburgh parliament

If the headlines are to be believed, this morning's Cabinet committee to approve the final proposals for a Scottish parliament is the place to be. Lurid accounts of its meetings in recent weeks have told of seething rows, last-ditch battles, and bitter animosity between ministers. The "bravehearts", led by Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, have apparently fought off vicious attacks from the "English nationalists", headed by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw. Jack Cunningham, Frank Dobson and others have sought and won major concessions on the powers to be retained by Westminster. Frequently, it is said, Mr Dewar has slunk back to the Scottish Office after a long day of furious debate, his face gaunt and drained.

Since that is how Mr Dewar normally looks, I am not quite sure how the reporters were able to tell. But I have no doubt that there has been friction — this, after all, is perhaps the most significant constitutional change in Britain since 1832, and next week's White Paper will reveal far-reaching plans which have lurked far too long behind anodyne statements of vague intent. Even Mr Dewar admits it will be "controversial". It is not surprising, therefore, that the press has detected evidence of ministerial turbulence.

What has been unexpected is the hostility and even contempt directed against Labour's plans by newspapers that might have been expected to welcome them. *The Scotsman*, whose long history of support for devolution should by rights have placed it among the cheerleaders, has been virulent in opposing what it describes as "deeply flawed" proposals. "A bastard child of constitutional compromise" was the phrase used by one of its columnists recently.

You do not, however, need to be blind to the problems ahead to adopt a more constructive approach. The key areas of contention remain what they have always been: tax, the ultimate sovereignty of Westminster, and the West Lothian question. Any one of these could, of course, be enough to scupper plans for a proper rather than a pretend parliament. Too much tax and you introduce a fiscal imbalance between England and Scotland which leads to instability. Too great a legislative remit and you undermine Westminster's ultimate authority and thus the Union itself. Too many MPs denied the right to vote on Scottish matters, and you promote an English nationalist backlash. On the other hand, it is possible to go too far the other way in limiting the powers of a Scottish parliament, ending up with the "pygmy parliament" that Michael Forsyth used to deride as Secretary of State. It would be hard to imagine anything more calculated to play into the hands of the nationalists.

The alternative, and the one I expect the White Paper to adopt, is to look at the powers held by the Scottish Office and to give them democratic form; to add limited tax-raising powers; and to ensure that the parliament has strong cross-party representation. Few people, even Scots, are aware of the present autonomy of the Scottish Office — far greater over a range of policies than any single Whitehall department, and the envy of many of them. But it is an autonomy exercised by civil servants behind closed doors. It needs to be exposed to genuine debate, to be rendered accountable and open, with MPs to challenge its assumptions as well as framing its legislation. A parliament armed with the ability to make the laws of the land and with spending powers which could influence everything from health and housing to transport and education, could be a formidable engine for change.

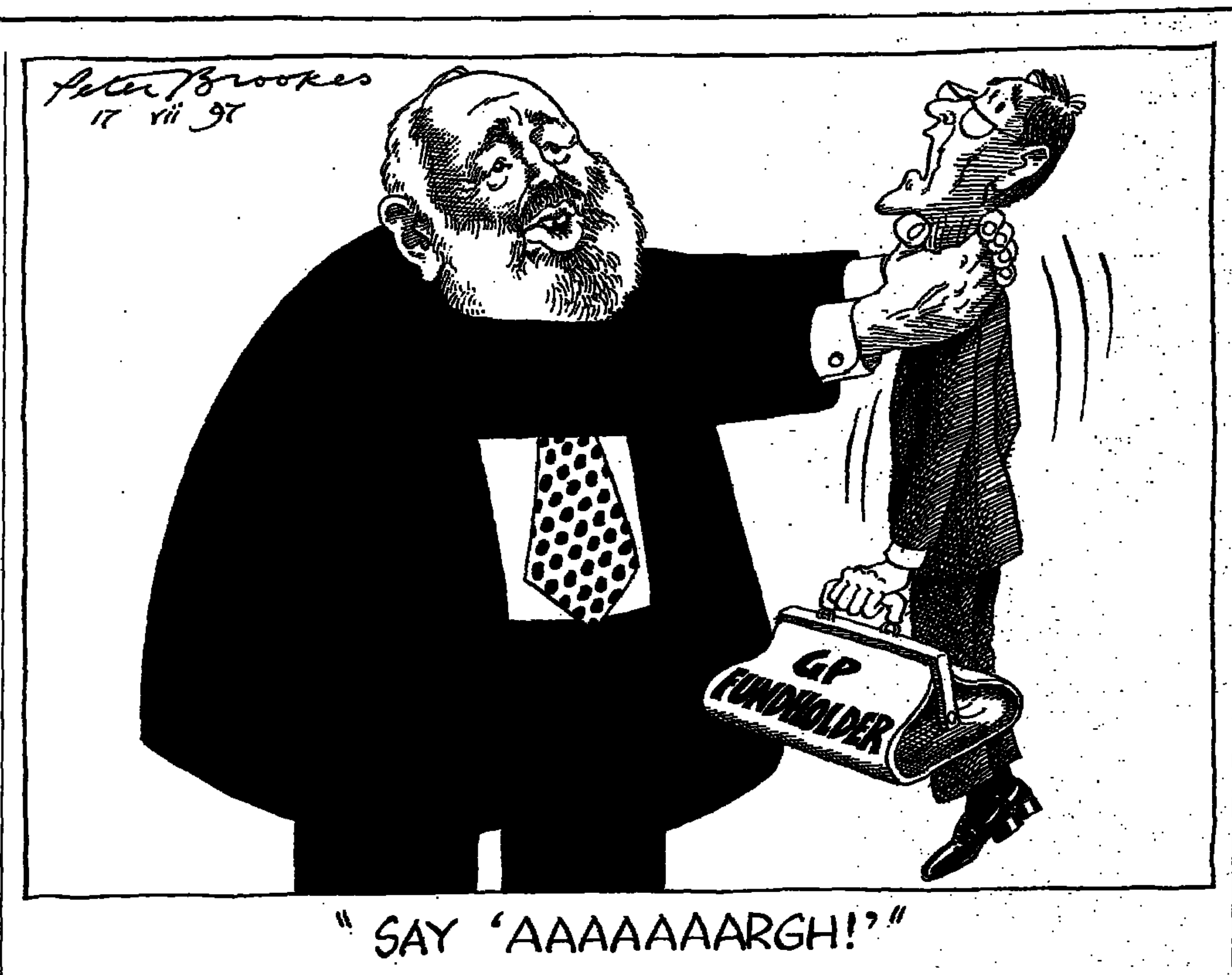
It would have to operate, to begin with at least, within the public funding formula which gives Scots an advantage of some 25 per cent per head over their English counterparts. That could not be guaranteed for ever, and since there has not been a proper review since the early 1970s, there would have to be some means of reassessing it. Tax-varying powers would be included, but since these would be limited to 3 per cent on the basic rate of income tax, their effect would be at best marginal.

All the key areas of contention remain as they were

And the West Lothian question? My bet is that it will simply be bypassed. The number of Scottish MPs at Westminster will be left intact, their powers over local constituency matters inevitably diminished, as will those of English MPs on Scottish issues. Sooner or later, I suspect, this situation will become untenable, and the numbers of MPs from Scotland will be reduced, or their voting powers limited. But I believe that it will be tackled in the pragmatic way by which the British constitution has always changed. No likely future Government will wish to destabilise a Scottish parliament, provided it is working well.

If this new constitutional baby is to survive, it will require a large measure of goodwill, from opponents as well as faint-hearted supporters. It may not be the perfect creature that everyone wanted, but those who want to stifle it at birth should remember the fury this will cause among those who have waited so patiently for it to appear.

Finally — and I have always wanted to say "you read it here first" — it seems as if the home for the new Scottish parliament may indeed be a brand new building rather than the cramped premises in the Royal High School on Calton Hill, as I predicted recently in these columns. Let us hope the result, when it is commissioned, is a truly imaginative building, a suitable home for what is meant to be a brave new institution.



" SAY 'AAAAAAARGH!' "

Bishops buy a job lot

The Church of England's support for old-style state intervention is a sure route to economic damnation

William Rees-Mogg

On Tuesday the General Synod of the Church of England adopted an ecumenical report, *An Inquiry into Unemployment and the Future of Work*, which was presented by David Sheppard, who is shortly to retire as Bishop of Liverpool. He is a deservedly popular figure, has been an excellent bishop and is unquestionably a good man. The report represents views which are characteristic of the Roman Catholic hierarchy as much as of the Church of England. Much the same set of ideas was to be found in *Faith in the City*, a Church of England report published in 1985.

These ideas are not Marxist, but they are socialist. They were developed in the Roman Catholic Church of the late 19th century as a middle way between Marxism and a then anti-clerical liberalism. In England they owe their origin to the Webbs, to the early Fabian Society and to the writings of William Temple, who was Archbishop of Canterbury in the early 1940s.

They hold that the State should take responsibility for major economic decisions in order to promote social welfare. Specifically, they recommend a full-employment policy based on high taxation to finance the state creation of jobs. David Sheppard has a personal view that the State is now exaggerating the priority of education; the socialism of the Christian Churches has more often shared that high priority for education.

This is a substantial intellectual tradition, and it deserves to be criticised as such. It is, however, opposed to strong modern trends of economic thought, on the Left as well as on the Right. It is strange that in July 1997 the Church of England should formally adopt the economic philosophy of old Labour.

There are no doubt plenty of old Labour people still around, but it was new Labour, with its acceptance of open-market principles, which won the largest election victory of the century only two and a half months ago. Plainly the Church of England is out of sympathy with the open-market element in Tony Blair's thinking, however much sympathy he may have with Anglican social ideals.

It is Lionel Jospin, himself much influenced by Roman Catholic social thinking, whose vision the General Synod seems most closely to share. He believes that state intervention, the creation of jobs by the State, and the defence of jobs, even where that means accepting low productivity, are the best way to combat unemployment. So does David Sheppard; so does the report.

For the Church of England to side with the French Socialist leader is understandable in terms of the Catholic social tradition, but is harder to justify when one looks at the level of French unemployment. After a decade and a half of French socialist policies, one person in eight in France is out of work, a much worse record than the British.

It is not only the French example which suggests that socialism, even of the Fabian or Catholic kind, is not a successful way to raise the level of employment. In the 1990s there has been a worldwide pattern of economic success which has included low taxes, relatively high growth, low government expenditure and large job creation in the private sector. The countries which have conformed to this pattern have enjoyed low unemployment.

There has also been a contrasting pattern of high taxes, relatively low growth, high public expenditure and little job creation in the private sector. These have been the countries with high unemployment.

During the 1980s, Margaret Thatcher moved Britain from the second group towards the first. Tony Blair made the historic decision to accept this part of the Thatcherite revolution. The General Synod thinks that Britain ought to move back towards the second group. What is odd is that they do so in the name of reducing unemployment, when the semi-socialist group of nations has shown a strong tendency for unemployment to rise.

Because this is a Church matter, it is natural to assume that it is also a moral issue. It is no such thing. It is an intellectual one. People like myself, who want Britain to move further towards the open-market, low-tax group of countries, do so because we believe that will increase job opportunities; that it will not only create more jobs, but better ones.

I do not disagree with David Sheppard's objectives of improving job opportunity and reducing unemployment. I fully share them. I do quarrel with his belief that the State can perform that function better than private individuals and businesses. All the current evidence is that the State does it much worse. What is wrong with the Church of England's policy on unemployment is that it would tend to increase unemployment, perhaps even to French levels.

That could just be an innocent error, but it is not altogether innocent. Bishops quite rightly criticise ignorant laymen who make theological pronouncements without having bothered to read any theology. Catholic bishops raise their eyebrows at journalists who think that the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is the same as the doctrine of the Virgin Birth. Much innocent fun has been had from such theological blunders.

But the bishops and the synod have failed to confront the intellectual case for open market economic theory. They denounce monetarism without knowing what it is. They think that Maynard Keynes is a good economist, but few of them have read *The General Theory*; they mistakenly think that Adam Smith is an out-of-date economist, but hardly one of them has read *The Wealth of Nations*. Few of them have any idea that the Austrian school ever existed.

It is entirely understandable that bishops are too busy to have acquired the knowledge needed to reach a pass in A-level economics, but they should hesitate to adopt dogmatic positions on technical questions of which most of them are almost entirely ignorant.

There is a danger in the parochialism of the Church of England's view. The world is rapidly becoming a single economy, connected by individual personal communications via the Internet. Socialism puts economic responsibility on the national government; it assumes that the individual economy is a free-standing unit which its national government can more or less control. The Church of England now calls on the British Government to make economic interventions which obviously depend on effective power. As the global economy erodes the power of the national governments, they will not be able to carry out such policies, even if they want to. As in France, the attempt to maintain local autonomy may itself make whole industries non-competitive.

Already the world seems to be dividing between countries which understand the global economic change and those which are moving towards protection. France is now a more socialist economy than Russia; even the United States has a far higher tax regime than China. The attempt to protect local economic advantages is almost certain to fail.

The popularity of French Socialism, on which Lionel Jospin won the French election six weeks ago, is this protectionism. The General Synod has taken the same protectionist view about jobs, and calls on the British Government to create and protect "decent jobs for all". That is not possible, but the attempt could be disastrous.

However well-intentioned, such a policy cannot protect; it is building walls of sand against the ocean. It can, however, result in over-taxation and over-regulation which can make a whole society uncompetitive. The export of jobs from Germany and France is a warning of the harm socialist economic theory can do, when it reinforces the popular demand for protectionism. Perhaps fortunately, the General Synod has little influence on national policy. The danger is much greater in Europe. There, the same Christian social policies have shaped the thinking of whole political parties. Europe is falling behind in the competition of the global economy.

Versace and the panthers

Artists thrive on risk, says **Rachel Campbell-Johnston**

A gold Medusa's head was Gianni Versace's trademark. The reptilian gorgon glares from his designs — a mocking *memento mori* for slick socialites. But this emblem of gilded death attains a grislier symbolism in the light of the recent murder of Versace. This was a man who not only stitched his seams, but lived his life, along the extravagant razor's edge of danger.

Miami police are searching for one suspect: Andrew Cunanan. An embittered male prostitute with Aids and a lethal vendetta against his rich clients. Cunanan is no longer thought to have been a former lover of Versace's, though the fashion designer was a promiscuous homosexual. If it does turn out that Cunanan is his murderer, then Versace will join the long line of gay artists and writers who have suffered violence or death at the hands of "rough trade".

Examples are legion. Johann Joachim Winckelmann, the pioneer of art history and rediscoverer of the Greek ideal, met his fate at the hands of an inflammatory catamite in Trieste. More recently, the biographer James Pope-Hennessy was found appallingly butchered in his London flat. Pier Paolo Pasolini, who brought such bawdy adaptations as *Il Decamerone* to the screen, was bludgeoned to death by a passing piece of rough trade. Joe Orton, whose *What the Butler Saw* carried farcical traditions of threatened adultery forward into the murky realms of incest and violent sex, seemed to write himself into his own script. He too was brutally murdered by his male lover.

Homosexual artists such as Michelangelo Caravaggio, Christopher Marlowe, Arthur Rimbaud, Francis Bacon and perhaps — though the jury is still out on their talent — Robert Mapplethorpe and Derek Jarman had one thing in common: each broke down the boundaries of convention in his work. Versace too was a believer in fearless fashion. Mocking the world of *prêt à porter*, he derived inspiration from prostitution. He looked beyond the sensual and found the sexual instead — leather and latex, body harnesses and studded skirts, spike heels and thigh length boots. Shorter, tighter, higher, deeper, became a motto. By sheer force of personality, he forced the richest and loveliest women in the world to dress like whores.

Rimbaud suggested that the artist could become a seer, a visionary, only by a long and prodigious disordering of all the senses, a balking at the limitations of the norm. It was only by going *too* far that there was anything to be gained, said Bacon. This ethos extended from their art into their lives. Not for these men the neat mundanity of stable structures; instead a headlong flight into the realms of risk, into the underworld.

Many of the most inspiring works of art expose human vulnerability by laying bare the terrifying duality of man. As Edgar Degas wrote: "Art is vice. You don't marry it legitimately, you rape it." Dionysius casts a black shadow over Apollonian order.

The urge to create is intricately entwined with the will to destroy. Revolution feasts on violence and ruin. Many of our most powerful artists did not so much develop and perfect the styles and techniques of their predecessors, as shatter them. The new was built up on the wreckage of the past. Art became the sum of its own destructions.

The sadomasochism of violent homosexual encounters is a manifestation of this instinct for destruction. But it is also concerned with the taunting play of a power, with the forces of manipulation and control. With good reason, Versace was reticent about his own sexual inclinations and practices, but in his work his imagery was flagrant. Exulting in the success of his 1993 collection, he jeered at critics and customers alike: "They said these clothes belonged only in a leather bar," he bragged. "And now, last night, there were 200 socialites in bondage."

Such power play is perilous. The shadow-side of homosexual experimentation seems far from "gay" — it is driven and daemonic. The fight ends in the kill. Francis Bacon's lover, George Dyer, consumed by jealousies and the sour depressions of drugs and drink, chose suicide as his means of revenge. On the opening night of Bacon's 1971 Paris retrospective, when adulating audiences lined the boulevards, he overdosed in his hotel room. Bacon's famous triptych depicting his lover's last hours show with mixed brutality and tenderness images of Dyer vomiting in a basin, sliding through shadows, and slumped on the lavatory pan as he finally passed away.

And so the fatal triangle of art, sex and death has claimed another victim. The ambitions of these destructive geniuses are symbolised by Christopher Marlowe's two great dramatic creations — Faustus, who sells his soul to the Devil, and Tamburlaine, who tries to conquer the world. Like Versace, Marlowe was mysteriously murdered: whether a contract killing, or a quarrel arising from a homosexual affair, it was a sordid death. Oscar Wilde liked to speak of "feasting with panthers". Panthers are not pussycats.

THE TIMES DIARY

Re-lease me

WANTED: Tory sympathiser with £3 million-plus to buy the freehold to Conservative Central Office, 32 Smith Square, London SW1, built in 1958 and home to the Tory party's headquarters since 1959, is being sold by Royal Sun Alliance, the recently merged insurance company which is tidying up its property investments.

The Tories bought the freehold to the building in 1981 from Westminster council for £1,325,000; then, in a piece of financial legerdemain, sold it in 1982 for £3,750,000 to a group packed with Tory dignitaries called the Bourne Association, who promptly leased it back to the party for 250 years at a peppercorn rent.

Tory Central Office: for sale

Poky, and representing the worst of late-Eighties grey, pink and blue corporate design, it is prehistoric compared with the Labour Party's *Star Trek*-style Millbank headquarters. On the other hand, the lease on it has been useful collateral when party chairmen, most recently Brian Mawhinney, have had to take out bank loans to fund election campaigns.

Lord Harris of Peckham, the former Tory party treasurer, was known to hate the place, and regularly advocated a move to a proper, purpose-built office block. William Hague's management consultants are likely to support him, particularly if the building is bought by someone unsympathetic to the Tories, say Mohamed Al Fayed. "It would be a relief to get out," says one of those still working there. "It looks like a stale Battenberg cake and has all the atmosphere of an Ostend brothel."

● *After my note on Saturday concerning the ever-more porky figure of Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, action seems to have been taken. Lunch with Cook at the Foreign Office now consists of sandwiches and warm water — not a glass of wine or beer in sight. Meanwhile, the food at the Foreign Secretary's official residence, Carlton Gardens, is at an all-time low. Recent visitors describe meals of Dickensian meanness: no starter, boned lamb cutlets sliced as thin as the cucumber in a duchess's teatime sandwich, and peach halves with shaving-foam cream.*

Oh, crumbs

STARKLY differing accounts are emerging on the subject of the Prime Minister's diet. When in London, it seems wild horses could not keep him out of its flashy metropolitan restaurants: Le Pont de la Tour with Clinton, the River Café with Lord Rogers of Riverside, Granita in Islington with Gordon Brown. Ask his Labour friends in the North of England and they tell you that Blair cannot get enough of the stottie, a sort of Geordie bap.

It fell to Ronnie Campbell, MP for Blyth Valley, to bring one to a gathering at No 10 this week of Labour MPs from the North East. "As soon as Campbell walked in Blair was demanding his stottie," says Stephen Hepburn, MP for Jarrow. "He eats one every night before bed." The tales of the PM's diet grew ever more improbable with the intervention of John Burton, Blair's constituency agent from Sedgefield. "Tony is certainly partial to a stottie, especially with his fish and chips when he comes home." Presumably served up by Cherie slapping around in apron and silver mules.

"It's not really going to frighten the EU away if they want to see your set-aside cheque"

● *Still wallowing in his victory at the British Grand Prix on Sunday, Jacques Villeneuve, the racing driver, was smartly reminded of Britain's hard-won reputation as the joyriding capital of Europe when his moped and helmet were stolen from the Northamptonshire countryside. Police recovered the moped in the hideous Preston Court Lumbertubs area of Northampton. Five youths have been arrested and released on bail charged with the theft. The helmet is still at large.*

Dear John

LIKE just another designer swimsuit, the pop singer Elton John has been cast aside by his friend Diana, Princess of Wales. The two had grown close through their shared interests in fashion and Aids charities. Close friends of John, however, say the pair have fallen out.

Elton John: hurt not angry

The spat originated in February when Diana withdrew her support from the Rock and Royalty Aids benefit ball organised by John. She objected to a racy book of photographs put together by the murdered fashion designer Gianni Versace to accompany the ball. As a a result, John called off the whole show. While planning the ball, John is said to have suggested to Diana that she might care to auction off some of her dresses to raise money. When Diana followed up the suggestion, however, she publicly attributed it to her son, Prince William, leaving one peeved John.

All could have been saved when John wrote to the Princess recently expressing his sorrow about the turn their relationship was taking. Instead of an olive branch, he received a stiff, formal letter advising him to send any further correspondence via the Buckingham Palace postroom. "Elton used to be a great admirer of Diana," said one close friend of the singer's, "but now he just feels hurt."

P·H·S

EASTWARD, LOOK

The beginning of open warfare over EU enlargement

The European Commission has christened its fat tome on managing the eastward enlargement of the European Union *Agenda 2000*. This overworked millennial imagery has rarely been less apposite. No one expects the European Union to admit new members by 2000, and the Commission's own deliberately vague target of around 2002 is unlikely to be met. With the partial exception of Britain and the Scandinavians, enlargement is not so much on the back burner in most EU countries as clean out of the kitchen.

The retreat is most marked in Germany, once enlargement's continental champion. For all the warm words that Helmut Kohl lavished on Poland's Prime Minister this week between mouthfuls of pig-stomach, he was careful not to name the day; and in Austria last month Karl Lamers, his confidant and Christian Democrat spokesman, let slip 15 years as a probable timetable.

The main reason is not far to seek. The obsessive pursuit of economic and monetary union has warped what was once a clear political perception of the gains in security and economic dynamism to be had by embracing Europe's new democracies. The toll the EMU project has taken both on jobs and on trust between rulers and ruled has sapped the will of EU leaders to tackle the indispensable reforms of the EU's political structures, regional aids and calamitous common agricultural policy (CAP).

Creditably, the Commission has chosen to ignore the way the ground is heaving beneath its feet. That is no thanks to Jacques Santer, who in deference to Herr Kohl would have restricted the first wave to three of the ten European applicants — Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. But Sir Leon Brittan and Hans van den Broek won the argument that Slovenia and Estonia were as well qualified and that to be credible, the Commission must stick to the "objective criteria" laid down in 1993.

Politically, that is the right decision now. But a caveat must be entered. The Copenhagen criteria require new members to take on board the entire shipload of EU regulations and to observe Maastricht's financial disciplines. Rigidly applied, this would impose on them economic, monetary and other restraints inappropriate to countries in rapid transition, stunting the growth which they need to catch up with the mature EU economies. Only if the EU is flexible about these can the full economic as well as political potential of enlargement be tapped — and the costs of enlargement contained. But its bean-counting, unpopular politicians are in no mood to explain why the "unfair advantage" of low-wage competition from these countries would be good for Europe's future competitiveness and economic health.

Flexibility towards the East needs to be matched by radicalism at home, beginning with regional aids and agriculture, which between them swallow around 90 per cent of the EU budget. Unreformed, the costs of both would soar under enlargement. The Commission rightly wants to concentrate regional aid; it is absurd that 51 per cent of EU citizens now receive such benefits. But this will be so bitterly resisted, particularly by Spain, that if the issue is not to hold up enlargement indefinitely the wisest tactic for the applicants might be to say that they were content to do without such subsidies.

Even without enlargement, the CAP has become indefensible. It benefits most rich farmers who least need help. Of this Brussels is now persuaded. The trouble is that most of them are in France and Germany, which together pocket 40 per cent of all CAP payments. Their farm lobbies are denouncing *Agenda 2000* as an "aggression". In fact the Commission's proposals, building on the 1992 reforms, are a brave further move in the right direction of weaning farmers off price supports, compensating with direct income supplements. But in terms of the Commission's ultimate aim, a policy that safeguards not just individual farms but the improved health of the broader rural economy, Robin Cook was right yesterday to call for "a still more radical strategy".

His valour in the coming battle will be tested soon enough, as will his optimistic assertion that the EU is at last "moving away from introspection about our institutions". The serious bargaining will start in January, when Britain sits in the EU chair. Speedy enlargement will be the cardinal measure of Tony Blair's claims about Britain's "leadership" in Europe. Can he break the logjams? Can he raise people's eyes to the really important horizon? Can he rescue the interests of the Central Europeans from the long grass into which they have been kicked? This Government's honourable place in history will be secure if he succeeds; but Messrs Blair and Cook will have their work cut out.

DOBSON'S CHOICE

Labour elevates dubious equality over proven excellence

The Government's bearded Bourbon yesterday tried simultaneously to wrench the clock back to an imagined Utopia and suspend the laws of supply and demand. Frank Dobson's decision to end GPs' "queue-jumping" in the name of fairness may win easy populist cheers but it serves patients and the health service ill. The Secretary of State has a keen awareness of the dangers to the NHS of bureaucracy, which is why his decision to cripple the Tory reform which did most for efficiency is all the more regrettable.

Mr Dobson invokes in his defence the shade of Aneurin Bevan. The NHS, he argues, was established to provide care on the basis of proven need, not ability to pay. It is an admirable sentiment, but it sits on Mr Dobson's lips like the Lord's Prayer on a child's, revered but barely understood. The ability of GP fundholders to secure better treatment for their patients is nothing to do with fat cats elbowing to the front of the queue, rather it gives GPs and their patients the whiphand over consultants and managers who previously ran the health service for their convenience. Fundholding has seen the many, the patients, empowered at the expense of the few, the professionals.

The "queue-jumping" which so exercises Mr Dobson was closer to queue-shrinking. By giving doctors the power to take their custom elsewhere hospitals were forced to smarten up their acts and cut waiting times. GPs did not need to exercise the power, and not all GPs needed to have it, for the threat to work. As Professor Rudolf Klein has pointed out in *The New Politics of the NHS*, the prospect of losing some patients has spurred all consultants to adopt new guidelines and protocols which define quality care, improving standards for all.

This can be caricatured as a "two-tier" system but the NHS has never been able to guarantee absolute equity. It has always been easier to secure, say, a hip transplant in Harrogate than in Hamilton. What fundholding does is to use competition to drive down waiting times across the board. Some may wait longer than others but everyone will, ultimately, be better off than before. Professor Howard Glennerster, in his book *Implementing Fundholding: Wild Card or Winning Hand?* demolished the arguments for abolishing fundholding because it created a "two-tier" service. The Labour-supporting academic concluded that, "to argue for the abolition of fundholding on this ground is perverse. It is akin to the philosophical paradox that equality in human needs can best be achieved by starving everyone."

The collectivisation of GP practices into commissioning groups will, at least, still allow the providers of primary care a stronger voice than they had before 1991, but the most effective weapon GPs could wield on behalf of their patients has been decommissioned. Doctors are taught that direct surgical intervention should be resisted whenever possible; it is a pity that Mr Dobson ignores best clinical practice.

JUNK FICTION?

Finding out what one wants to read is a step in growing up

The Booker Prize of the playground has been awarded to a novel about teenage drug-addicts. *Junk*, by Melvin Burgess, has won the Library Association's Carnegie Medal. This tells the story of self-deluding teenagers who think that they can handle heroin but find that it has them in its frightening grip. Its principal characters are on a downward escalator through squatting, theft, drug-addiction, prostitution and pregnancy.

According to the judges, *Junk* is an extraordinary, ground-breaking book. But *Mary Poppins* it ain't. And already there have been ritual cries of outrage from the media (not all from the headless chicken end of the street) about the bleakness of the topics in the Carnegie shortlist. Besides drugs, these include arson, bullying and the death of a child on an operating table. It is the prerogative of the older generation down the ages to fret about what its young are reading.

But fairy stories are not sweetness and light. They have room for ogres, witches, cannibalism and serial killers. The Grimm brothers collected horrifying folktales. *Jack the Giant-Killer* and *Morte D'Arthur* include butchery and serial adultery. And in the first story in English, Grendel's mother is an unsuitable role model. Freud and Jung could discover dark roots in the sunniest wonderlands. The imaginative shudder is as important a part of growing through reading as the peculiarly English coo over animal anthropomorphism. *Stig of the Dump* is popular because he is disgusting without the discomfort. *Everyone Poops* rather than *Winnie the Pooh* rides high on the bestseller lists because it treats an unmentionable body process which fascinates children.

It was a Romantic fallacy to suppose that childhood experience was a world of its own, and that children's literature must be didactic and improving. But once teenagers start to read for pleasure, they have crossed a write of passage into the grown-up world. Like adults, they will read about the things that they talk about in the playground. And there are no no-go areas in print. The schoolchildren who shadowed the Carnegie Medal shortlist for themselves this year showed more maturity than its critics. As we report on our Arts pages, one of them said: "It's not books which corrupt people; it's other people." And the children voted unanimously for *Junk* as the winner. Children should be given a chance to think for themselves. They do, and they will. That is part of reading up and growing up.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Concern on ethical abortion practice

From Mr Nicholas Beale, the Rev Dr J. C. Polkinghorne, FRS, and Professor Lord Winston

Sir, Although we differ about the circumstances, if any, in which they are allowable, we all agree that abortions should not be performed if there is no genuine substantial risk to the physical or mental health of the mother or children. This is clearly what was intended by the 1967 Abortion Act. But it is also clear that there is, at least, a widespread perception that abortion is effectively available on demand in the UK, especially for those prepared to pay for it. The recent reports of so-called "lunch-hour abortions" for £285 (report, later editions, June 28) reinforces this perception.

An urgent review is needed of the operation of the Abortion Act to ensure that all clinics operate within the letter and spirit of the law. Public support for healthcare and the development of new treatments depends on public confidence that all doctors and clinics are operating to the highest ethical and legal standards.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS BEALE,
JOHN POLKINGHORNE,
ROBERT WINSTON,
c/o Sciteb,
1 Hay Hill,
Berkeley Square, W1.
July 9.

Freedom's boundaries

From Mr Peter Le Cheminant

Sir, To me, as an ex-"Mandarin", the present controversy over "freedom of information" has a familiar ring (leading article, July 12; letters, July 15). Politicians so often think broad-brush and loathe being asked to define their proposals in detail. But the law has to be precise, and the devil frequently lies in the small print.

For instance, many advocates of freedom of information believe that the tax returns of ministers and MPs should remain private; yet the US Congress has no inhibitions about demanding, and publishing, this sort of information about candidates for high office.

Only ministers (and Parliament) can decide where the boundaries of freedom lie. Those in the Civil Service who ask awkward questions are only doing what they are paid for, and reasonably competent civil servants have nothing to fear from the opening of the books.

Politicians, on the other hand, are mostly petrified that their reasoning/motivation may be exposed to public gaze. It will be fun to see who wins.

Yours sincerely,
PETER Le CHEMINANT
(Second Permanent Secretary,
Cabinet Office (Management and
Personnel Office), 1983-84),
The Reform Club,
104 Pall Mall, SW1.
July 16.

A 'say' on Amsterdam

From Mr Nigel Lea-Jones

Sir, "That is why", concluded Michael Howard, now Shadow Foreign Secretary, in his letter (July 9), "the British people should be allowed their say on the Amsterdam treaty before it is ratified."

He will understand, I am sure, why the many people who campaigned so vigorously for such a "say" on the Maastricht treaty are hardly impressed by the lateness of this call. Coming from a leading member of the previous Government, such a stand of principle would then have been a substantial benefit in the cause of addressing our democratic deficit.

Let him be in no doubt that it was the decisions of people of consistently Conservative principles that led to Mr Howard and his colleagues now being in Opposition, or out of Parliament altogether.

We have not solved Maastricht/Amsterdam; but the supreme arrogance that thought we have no choice has been addressed.

Yours sincerely,
NIGEL LEA-JONES,
48 Elm Park Mansions,
Park Walk, SW10.
July 9.

Versace's Italy

From Miss Antonia Lloyd-Jones

Sir, I was interested to learn from your obituary of Gianni Versace today that in Italy "bourgeois Roman and Milanese girls flee to Calabria and Sicily in the summer with the express purpose of losing their virginity to the swarthy southern men".

Eager to demonstrate my enlightenment in the course of polite office conversation I asked my Italian colleague, Stefania, who comes from a well-to-do Milanese family, whether she had fled to Calabria or Sicily for her own deflowering. Not only did she deny either location, she seemed offended by the question.

Could *The Times* be mistaken in its judgment of these ladies; or perhaps is racist as well as sexist?

Yours sincerely,
ANTONIA LLOYD-JONES,
82c Lakeside Road, W14.
July 16.

Broader debate on 'fat cat' lawyers

From Mr Tim O'Flynn

Sir, The new Lord Chancellor's attack on the earnings of "fat cat" lawyers (report, July 15) should not be confined to those few specialised QCs who receive over £1 million a year. They should also address some of the more modest earners.

Those of us who practise in the family courts frequently see local authorities being unable to fulfil their statutory requirements to support and assist dysfunctional families through a lack of funds. We also see QCs in our own line of work putting in claims for tens of thousands of pounds for a few weeks' work in family cases.

Compare the cars that arrive in the court car parks. Out of the shiny new BMWs and Audis step the barristers to do a day or two's work. Out of the second-hand and battered Vauxhalls step the social workers who spend months and years working with these damaged children and families.

A redistribution of public funding from the legal aid fund to social services would not just help the alienated members of our society. It would also be just.

Yours faithfully,
TIM O'FLYNN
(Barrister),
13 Dover Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight.
July 15.

From the Chairman of the Bar Council

Sir, In May 1996 the Commons Public Accounts Committee heard evidence from the Lord Chancellor's Department to the effect that the drop in the total number of civil cases in recent years was due in part to the deterrent effect of High Court fees.

That was before the dramatic rise in court costs imposed by the last Government in January 1997. For that reason the Bar Council opposed the rise and welcomed yesterday's debate in the House of Lords as to the validity of the policy which underlay the rise — namely, the recovery of the full cost of running the civil courts from litigants.

The substantial fees earned by top lawyers, be they solicitors or barristers, in the conduct of commercial litigation are irrelevant to this issue. Such fees are negotiated at arm's length in a free market and do not affect access to justice for those of modest means.

If the cost of using the courts is such as to deter individuals or small businesses from pursuing or defending their legal rights, then the price is too high.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT OWEN,
Chairman,
General Council of the Bar,
1 Crown Office Row, Temple, EC4.
July 15.

From Mr Jeffery McCann

Sir, The Lord Chancellor has berated (a limited number of) QCs for earning £1 million per annum. Were such earnings paid from the public purse I would wholeheartedly agree.

Such, however, is not the case. They are almost invariably commercial silks whose privately paying clients apparently consider the money well spent. The wisdom of this is a matter for them (the clients).

Yours sincerely,
JEFFERY McCANN,
3 Linley Court,
Rouse Gardens, Dulwich, SE21.
July 15.

From Mr Peter Durrant

Sir, The comments by Lord Irvine of Lairg are merely the latest example of such criticism to be expressed by a high-ranking lawyer. I suspect they are intended to fool us into thinking that something might one day happen to reduce these exorbitant charges, aptly summed up by Hilaire Belloc's rhyme about physicians:

They answered, as they took their Fees,
'There is no Cure for this Disease.'

Yours faithfully,
PETER DURRANT,
13 Coppice Way,
South Woodford, E18.
July 15.

Tackling junk

From Mr Peter Collymore

Sir, I note that the Registrar for Data Protection is to crusade against junk mail (report, July 14). I can discard junk mail in seconds. But I object to being telephoned out of the blue by someone trying to sell me windows or a kitchen.

Can the registrar tackle this invasion of privacy, please.

Yours faithfully,
P. K. COLLYMORE,
Barrington Cottage,
Byworth, Petworth, West Sussex.
July 14.

From Professor Barbara Goodwin

Sir, The junk mail problem is compounded when someone moves house or changes job. I did both last July, since when I have spent much time writing letters to organisations that continue to use my former home or business address for mailshots. Some of this mail is wanted — eg, publishers' catalogues — but most is unsolicited or junk.

Many organisations do not update their mailing lists despite several requests. Some use out-of-date lists purchased from other sources for one-shot promotions and it is impossible to track down the originator. Those who have to forward junk mail to new addresses and the Royal Mail, which transports forwarded letters free of charge, are involved in considerable waste of time or additional costs by these poor practices.

The direct-mail industry should be compelled (either by a code or by law) to include in every mailshot a reply-paid card which invites the recipient to advise of any change of address and to state whether he or she wishes to continue to receive mail from that source.

Yours sincerely,
BARBARA GOODWIN
(Professor of Politics),
University of East Anglia,
School of Economics and
Social Studies,
Norwich NR4 7TJ.
July 16.

From Sir Bryan Askew

Sir, Any junk mail which includes a reply-paid envelope receives a request to delete my name from the sender's mailing list.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN ASKEW,
27 Golf Links Avenue,
Tadcaster, North Yorkshire.
July 14.

Ruling the roost

From Mr Robert Wright

Sir, I was dismayed to read of the death of Paula, posthumously Paul (reports, July 8, 12), the eagle owl living around St Paul's Cathedral. But since it was clearly viable, having apparently survived for two years at liberty, and lived on pests such as pigeons, rats and the occasional dog, why not introduce a breeding pair?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WRIGHT,
65 Bouncers Lane,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

From Mrs R. T. Holtby

Sir, *Requiescat* Paula — not the first eagle owl to honour a cathedral precinct. Chichester people will remember Oswald, who for a brief period in 1988 before my husband's retirement as dean, took up residence in the cathedral itself, accurately giving the note for the Amen of the St Oswald's Eve collect.

His first and dramatic appearance was in the centre of the deanery pediment, where he remained ornamentally motionless for several hours, an extra diversion for the diocesan clergy wives' annual party. He later made his home in a yew tree near the east end of the cathedral, where he would respond in kind to the encouraging hoots of passers-by in the know.

Only those who feared for their small pets, or were kept awake at night in the Dolphin and Anchor opposite, failed to mourn his return to captivity after weeks of stardom. At least he survived — fewer pigeons, but healthier surroundings.

Yours faithfully,
MARY HOLTBY,
4 Hutton Hall, Huttons Ambo,
York, North Yorkshire.
July 9.

Thrill of the chase

From Mr Andrew King

Sir, You report (July 11) that Baroness Mallalieu told the Countryside Alliance rally: "Hunting is our music, it is our poetry, it is our art, it is our pleasure. It is where many of our best friendships are made, it is our community. It is our whole way of life."

Did anyone *over*state the case?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW KING,
32 Priory Street,
Colchester, Essex.
July 11.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Up the English

From Dr Kenneth Gulleford

Sir, Simon Chapman is right to champion the cause of the English (letter, July 9) for surely we are the most repressed nation on earth. As an Englishman living in London I have just applied to Glasgow for renewal of my passport, and my tax affairs are dealt with in Cardiff. My business is likewise registered in Wales and now I hear that the "p" is to disappear from some of our postage stamps (report, June 28) because it signifies a word from the English language.

Scottish and Welsh nationalism has become respectable and Irish nationalists are entertained at the White House. It is time for the voice of the English to be heard in the land.

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH GULLEFORD,
26 Wakelin Chase,
Ingatestone, Essex.

Future of Radio 4 and 'right to fail'

From Sir Christopher Bland, Chairman of the BBC

Sir, Brenda Maddox's testy Media column today, "BBC Governors, please stand up for our rights", is wrong, premature and confused.

She is wrong to distinguish Michael Grade's ritual attack on the BBC from the remainder of his interminable speech; it was just as boring as the rest.

She is premature in encouraging BBC Governors to resign over a rumoured assault on Radio 4 — and whatever else she may hold against us, the charge of failing to understand the values of the "great mass of middle England that structures its day by Radio 4" just won't wash. Any changes in the Radio 4 schedule will be based on a careful, thorough process of internal and external discussion and analysis, and will improve the way in which Radio 4 serves its unique audience.

Finally, she is confused when she attributes John Birt's recognition of two dramas as noble failures, in what was an outstanding year for BBC programmes, to an unwillingness to take risks. It is an important concomitant of the right to fail that we recognise those of our programmes that have not succeeded, and try to understand why.

In Brenda Maddox's jaundiced eye, the BBC is damned when it does and damned when it doesn't.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER BLAND,
Chairman,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Broadcasting House,
Portland Place, W1.
July 16.

From Ms Margaret Quass

Sir, I read with mounting horror today's report on the plans of Radio 4's new Controller, Mr Martin Boyle, to axe or reschedule many of the station's most valuable programmes. However, I was much encouraged at finding Michael Gove (although not yet 30 and thus less than half my age) had perfectly expressed my views in the same issue ("Don't play dumb with Radio 4").

I still miss *Stop the Week* on Saturday evenings and will find it intolerable to start the week on Monday mornings without the eponymous programme. Mr Boyle is presumably deserting his present listeners in the hope of attracting some hypothetical younger audience which does not exist. Others have done it before him with dire results.

New, imaginative programmes are always welcome but they should be designed to stretch us rather than shrink us: to educate and inform as well as to entertain. *Medium Wave*, *Quote … Unquote* and *Science Now* are three examples, all apparently under threat.

Where is the transparency and accountability we were promised? Let us hope that the Governors are more in touch with Radio 4 listeners than Mr Boyle. If so, they will throw out his abominable plan and advise him to follow Michael Gove's prescription.

Yours etc,
MARGARET QUASS,
Flat 4, 113 Broadhurst Gardens, NW6.
July 14.

From Mr Charles Pearmain

Sir, I am horrified — if not surprised — at the proposed emasculation of BBC Radio 4's programme schedules.

I regard Radio 4 as an invaluable source of entertainment, but more importantly of information. It is already an entire magazine of programmes, offering a greater depth of detail and understanding than almost any other service. Earlier attempts to turn it into an ersatz Radio 2, such as *Anderson Country* and *The Afternoon Shift*, met with strong opposition from those who enjoy some depth to the programmes they listen to. They have done nothing to increase listening figures.

A few blemishes need correcting — the dependence on 1950s humour and the obsession with "current affairs" — and some plain warts need excising. The BBC should carry out corrective surgery by all means, but the latest proposals will leave the patient an empty husk.

Yours etc,
CHARLES PEARMAIN,
Michaelmas House,
Moreton in Marsh, Gloucestershire.
cpearmain@cix.compulink.co.uk

From Sir David Lane

Sir, Thank you for Michael Gove's brilliant article today.

If the rumours of proposed changes to Radio 4 are well-founded, let us hope that the BBC Governors will intervene to prevent yet another downgrading of British life.

Yours truly,
DAVID LANE,
5 Spinney Drive,
Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire.
July 14.

Virtually the same?

From Mr D. O. E. Batten

Sir, Is there a difference between virtual reality (letters, July 7, 8, 12, 15) and complete self-delusion?

Yours faithfully,
D. BATTEN
Christmas Cottage,
Ridlington, Oakham, Rutland.
July 15.

Versace and the panthers

Rachel Campbell-Johnston

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 16: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were entertained to Luncheon this afternoon by the High Commissioner for Canada (His Excellency the Hon Roy MacLaren) and Mrs MacLaren at Macdonald House, Grosvenor Square, London W1.

The Right Reverend Sir Paul Reeves was received by Her Majesty and remained to Tea.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning opened a new computer suite at Bexley College, Belvedere, Kent.

His Royal Highness, President, this afternoon attended a Reception for the National Playing Fields Association's Schools Sports Award Winners at St James's Palace.

The Queen was represented by the Lord Porter of Luddenham OM at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Lord Todd OM which was held in St Margaret's Church Westminster Abbey, London SW1, today.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Sir Andrew Huxley OM.

July 16: The Princess Royal, Patron, SENSE - the National Deafblind and Rubella Association this morning visited SENSE Community Homes at 71 and 79 Coriander Close, Northfield, Birmingham, and was received by Colonel Patrick Robinson (Deputy Lieutenant of West Midlands).

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, today opened the new offices of Central Television Studios at Gas Street, Birmingham.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this afternoon visited Wood End Family Project, Bretford Road, Wood End, Coventry, West Midlands.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 16: The Prince of Wales, President, the Phoenix Trust, this morning chaired a meeting of the Trustees at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness afterwards received the Rt Hon John Prescott MP (Deputy Prime Minister).

The Prince of Wales this afternoon gave a Reception for primary school head teachers.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 16: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this afternoon attended a Garden Party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse to celebrate the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Royal Society for the Relief of Indigent Gentlewomen of Scotland.

July 16: The Duke of Gloucester, Commissioner, English Heritage, this morning attended the Commissioners' Meeting at Fortress House, Saville Row, London W1.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Deputy President, today visited the East of England Agricultural Society Schow, Peterborough, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crowden).

YORK HOUSE
July 16: The Duke of Kent this evening took the salute at the Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London SW5.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
July 16: Princess Alexandra, President of the British School at Rome, this evening attended a Private View of the Paintings of Sir Thomas Monnington at the Fine Art Society, New Bond Street, London W1.

Dinners

HM Government
Mr George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence, was the host at a dinner given last night at Admiralty House by Her Majesty's Government in honour of Mr Alain Richard, the French Minister for Defence.

Law Society
Mr Tony Girling, President of the Law Society, and the vice-president and council were the hosts at a dinner held last night at the society's hall. Among those present were:
The Master of the Rolls, the Vice-Chancellor of the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the Chairman of the Bar, the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Minister of State, Criminal Policy, and the Legal Services Ombudsman.

Parish Clerks' Company
Mr O.W.H. Clark, Master of the Parish Clerks' Company, presided, assisted by Mr J.D. Hebblethwaite, Upper Warden, and Mr W.H. Dove, Under Warden, at the annual installation and ladies dinner held last night at Church House, Westminster. Mr B.C. Burrough, Parish Clerk of St Anne Soho and Miss M. MacGlashan, HM Ambassador to the Holy See, also spoke. Among those present were:
The Bishop of Sodor and Man and Mrs Jones, the Dean of Westminster and Mrs Carr, the Dean of St Paul's, the Master of the Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company, the Master of the Glovers' Company and the Master of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames and their ladies. Earlier, The Dean of St Paul's officiated at evensong held in the Chapel of St Faith, St Paul's Cathedral, and the Bishop of Sodor and Man preached the sermon.

United & Cecil Club
Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, was the host at a dinner of the United & Cecil Club held last night at the House of Commons. Sir Marcus Fox, chairman, presided. Mr Stephen Dorrell, MP, was the principal guest and speaker. Mrs Elizabeth Peacock also spoke.

European-Atlantic Group
Lord Chalfont was the speaker at a dinner of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at St Ermin's Hotel. Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, president, was in the chair.

Birthdays today

Sir Hardy Amies, dressmaker, 88; Baroness Anelay of St Johns, 50; Mr Richard Barker, former Headmaster, Sevenoaks School, 58; Mr Tim Brooke-Taylor, actor, 57; Sir Alan Cottrell, FRS, former Vice-Chancellor, Cambridge University, 78; Mr Raymond Galton, scriptwriter, 67; Baroness Gardner of Parkes, 70; Mr W. Gordon Graham, publisher, 77; Mr John Greetham, former regional chairman, NHS Executive, Northern and Yorkshire Region, 58; Mr Eric Hammond, trade unionist, 68; Mr J.M. Harper, former deputy managing director, BT, 67; Sir William Henderson, FRS, former president, Zoological Society of London, 84; Sir William Heseltine, former Private Secretary to the Queen, 67; Lord Lane, 79; the Right Rev D.R. Lunn, Bishop of Sheffield, 67; Mr Joe McNally, founding managing director, Compaq Computer UK, 55; Lord Patten, 52; Dr Marjorie Reeves, FBA, historian, 92; the Marqués de Samaranch, president, International Olympic Committee, 77; Mr Peter Sissons, broadcaster, 55; Mr Wayne Sleep, dancer, actor and choreographer, 49; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Blair Stewart-Wilson, former Deputy Master of the Household, 68; Sir Kenneth Stowe, civil servant, 70; Mr Donald Sutherland, actor, 62; Mr Bob Taylor, cricketer, 56; His Honour Sir David West-Russell, 76; Mr P.D.V. Wilkes, Headmaster, Cheltenham College, 56; Mr Terrel Wyatt, former chairman, Costain Group, 70.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Isaac Watts, hymn writer, Southampton, 1674; John Jacob Astor, fur trader, Waldorf, Germany, 1763; Earl Stanley Gardner, thriller writer, Malden, Massachusetts, 1889; James Cagney, actor, New York, 1899.

DEATHS: Adam Smith, economist, Edinburgh, 1790; James McNeill Whistler, painter, London, 1903; Billie Holiday, jazz singer, New York, 1959.

Memorial service

Lord Taylor of Gosforth

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Baroness Gould of Potternewton at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord Taylor of Gosforth, former Lord Chief Justice of England, held on Tuesday in St Paul's Cathedral. The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Nicolas Adamson.

The Dean of St Paul's officiated, assisted by Canon Stephen Oliver, precentor, and the Rev John Lees. Lord Bingham of Cornhill, Lord Chief Justice, and Mr David Fearnley read the lessons.

Mr Arthur Taylor, brother, and the Hon Louis Taylor, son, read the Kaddish Prayer of a Mourner. Mr Justice Potts and Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, gave addresses.

During the service Ms Janis Kelly, soprano, accompanied by Mr Anthony Legge, piano, sang *Auf dem Wasser zu singen*, and, with Ms Jean Rigby, mezzo-soprano, and Mr Andrew Hammond, baritone, sang from Mozart's *Cosi fan tutte*. Ms Maureen Smith, violin, and Ms Emma Rivlin, piano, played Bach's *Ave Maria*, arranged by Gounod.

The Archdeacon of London was robed and in procession.

The Lord Chancellor, also representing the Prime Minister, and Lady Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies and the Chief Commoner, the Lord Advocate, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the President of the Family Division and Lady Brown, the Vice-Chancellor of the Supreme Court, the Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham, also representing the Lord-Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear, and Lady Nicholson, the Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire and Mrs Lyles and the High Sheriff of the East Riding of Yorkshire and Mrs Carver attended. Among others present were:

Mr and the Hon Mrs Robert Torday, Mr and the Hon Mrs Michael Stevenson and Mr and the Hon Mrs Paul Bridge (sons-in-law and daughters), the Hon Mrs Louis Taylor (daughter-in-law), Thomas Stevenson (grandson), Mrs Arthur Taylor (sister-in-law), Miss Carolyn Taylor, Mr Paul Taylor, Mr C J Dawson.

Ambassadors, High Commissioners and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, Earl Ferrers, Viscount Ridley, KG, and Viscountess Ridley, Viscount Bledisloe, Viscount and Viscountess Runciman of Doxford, Viscount and Viscountess Dilhorne.

Lady Woolf, Lord and Lady Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead (treasurer, Middle Temple), and Lady Nicholls, Lord and Lady Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Nolan, Lord Hutton, Lord Goff of Chieveley, FBA, and Lady Goff, Lord Hope of Craighead, Lord and Lady Oliver of Aylmerton, Lord and Lady Ackner, Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, Lord and Lady Steyn, Lord Clyde.

Lord and Lady Lloyd of Berwick, Baroness Mallalieu, QC, Baroness Williams of Crosby, Lord Hooson, Lord and Lady Mustill, Lord Hacking, Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, Lady Williams of Mostyn, Lord Mishcon, QC, Lord and Lady Lane, Lady Roskill, Lord Wigoder, QC, Lord and Lady Wilberforce, Lord Lester of Herne Hill, Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, QC, Lord Hardie, QC, Lady Brandon of Oakbrook.

Lord Justice Staughton (treasurer, Inner Temple) and Lady Staughton, Mr Michael Howard, QC, MP, Lord Justice and Lady Rose, Sir Patrick Russell, Lady (Henry) Brooke, Lord Justice and Lady Henry, Lord Justice Potter, Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Mummery, Lord Justice Millett, Sir Donald Farquharson, Lord Justice and the Hon Lady Kennedy, Lord Justice Roch, Sir Patrick O'Connor, Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Sir Iain and Lady Glidewell.

Lord Justice Schiemann, Sir John and Lady Balcombe, Sir Andrew and Lady Leggatt, Lord Justice Simon Thomas, Lord Justice and Lady Beldam, Lord Justice and Lady Hutchison, Lord Justice and Lady Ward, Lord Justice and Lady Judge, Lord Justice Thorpe, Lord Justice Pill, Lord Justice and Lady Hirst, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice and Lady Otton, Lord Justice and Lady Nourse, Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, MP, Sir Ian Percival, QC, and Lady Percival.

Sir Michael Kerr (Essex Court Chambers), Sir Francis and Lady Purchas, Lord Justice and Lady Hobhouse, Lord Justice and Lady Waller, Lord Justice and Lady Phillips, the Hon Mrs Justice Hogg, the Hon James Butler (chairman, Butler Trust) and Mrs Butler.

Sir Maurice Drake (treasurer, Lincoln's Inn), Dame Barbara Mills (Director of Public Prosecutions), Mr Justice Jowitt, Mr Justice Carnwath, Mr Justice Gage (representing the Presiding Judge, South Eastern Circuit), Mr Justice Bennett, Sir Leslie Boreham, Mr Justice Hooper (Resident Judge, North Eastern Circuit), Sir Michael Davies, Sir Charles and Lady Mantell, Lady Cobb, Lady Veale, Sir Peter and Lady Webster, Mr Justice Brian Smedley, Sir Geoffrey Dear, Sir Derek Bradbeer, Mr Justice and Lady Colman, Mr Justice and Lady Dyson.

Mr Justice and Lady Collins, Mr Justice Roger Toulson, Mr Justice Hidden, Sir Brian and Lady Jenkins, Sir William Goodhart, QC, Sir John and Lady Knox, Sir Ralph and Lady Kilner Brown, Lady (Peter) Middleton, Mrs Justice Bracewell, Mr Justice Rix, Mr Justice Moore-Bick, Mr Justice Timothy Walker, Mr Justice and Lady Alliott, Mr Justice and Lady Owen, Dame Rosalyn Higgins, FBA, QC, Mr Justice Carnwath, Mr Justice Scott Baker, Mr Justice Morison, Lady Solti, Sir Anthony and Lady Ewbank, Mr Justice and Lady Rougier, Sir Nigel and Lady Shields, Mr Justice Rimmer, Mr Justice and Lady Holland.

Mr Justice and Lady May, Mr Justice Forbes, Sir Christopher French, Sir Stephen and Lady Tumim, Sir Ralph and Lady Gibson, Mr Justice Astill, Sir David Calcutt, QC, and Lady Calcutt, Sir John and Lady Palmer, Mr Justice Ferris, Sir John and Lady Wood, Mr Justice Moses, Mr Justice and Lady Lloyd, Mr Justice and Lady Kay, Mr Justice Nelson, Mr Justice Newman, Mr Justice and Lady Clarke, Mr Justice Turner, Mr Justice Cazalet, Sir Peter and Lady Cresswell, Sir Barry and Lady Sheen, Sir John and the Hon Lady Stephenson, Sir Colin Cole, Sir Robin Day, Mr Justice Tucker, Mr Justice Kirkwood, Lady McNeil, Mr Justice Harman.

Mr Justice Popplewell, Mr Justice Butterfield, Sir Patrick Neill, QC, Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, and Lady Blom-Cooper, Mr Justice and Lady Keene, Mr Justice Blackburne, Sir Thomas Legg, QC, and Lady Legg, Mr Justice Rattray, Mr Justice and Lady Ognall, Sir Henry de Waal, QC, and Lady de Waal, Sir Godfray Le Quesne, QC, Mr Justice McKinnon, Mr Justice Mance, Mrs Justice Arden (Law Commission), Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC.

Sir Cecil Clothier, QC, and Lady Clothier, Sir David Ramsbotham (Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales), Mr Justice Lindsay, Mr Justice Sumner, Mr Justice and Lady Parker, Mr Justice Evans-Lombe, Mr Justice Lightman, Mr Justice and Lady Ian Kennedy, Mr Justice Smith (Presiding Judge, North Eastern Circuit), Lady Nursaw, Mr Peter Glucksmann and Dame Margaret Booth.

Judge Esyr Lewis, QC (treasurer, Gray's Inn), Judge and Mrs Cook, Judge Robin Auld, Judge Bentley, QC, Judge Dyer, Judge Richard Haworth, Judge Michael Coombe, Judge Fergus Mitchell, Judge Brian Capstick, QC, and Mrs Capstick, Judge Pearlman, Judge B Walsh, QC (Recorder of Leeds) also representing the Residing Judge at York and the Residing Judge at Bradford.

Judge and Mrs J A Baker, Judge and Mrs Orde, Judge Harkins, Judge Pownall, QC, and Mrs Pownall, Judge Angus Macdonald, Judge Mota Singh, QC, Judge D M Levy, QC, Judge and Mrs A Simmons, Judge Paget, QC, His Honour Alan King-Hamilton, QC, Judge Ann Goddard, QC, Judge Michael Rich, QC, Judge Peter Beaumont, QC, Judge Crane, Judge Paul Collins, Judge Marr-Johnson.

His Honour Richard Lowry, QC, and Her Honour Nina Lowry, Judge A Thornton, Judge B Green, QC, Judge Gavin Barr-Young, Judge and Mrs William Crawford, Judge David Bryant, Judge Crabtree, Judge C Coulson, Judge A V Bradbury, Judge Voal, QC, Judge Barrington Black, Judge Paiba, Judge J Stephenson (also representing the Recorder of Newcastle upon Tyne) and Mrs Stephenson.

Judge Paling, Judge Viljoen, Judge Angus Stroyan, QC, and Mrs Stroyan, Judge Fingret and Dr Ann Fingret, Judge Fabyan Evans, Judge Rivlin, Judge Simon Grenfell, Judge Michael Taylor, Judge Leslie Spittle, Judge D R Wood, Judge Michael Oppenheimer, Judge Timothy King, His Honour Douglas Forrester-Paton, QC, Judge Coltart, Judge Peter Crawford, QC (Recorder of Birmingham), Judge Michael Walker (Recorder of Sheffield), Judge Pillay.

The Senior Master and Queen's Remembrancer, Master McKenzie, QC, (Registrar, Criminal Appeals and Crown Office), Master Ungley, Master Dyson, Master Hodgson, Master Foster, Master Eyre, Master Leslie, Master Miller, Master Nigel Murray, Registrar J D Adams (Court of Appeal) with Deputy Registrar I Joseph, District Judge Merrick, the Deputy Tipstaff, Royal Courts of Justice.

Dr Geoffrey de Keyser and Miss Fanny Waterman (chairman, Leeds International Pianoforte Competition), Mr Adrian Barnes (City Remembrancer and chairman, Music Therapy), the Chief Executive of the Council of the Bar, Miss Anne Stewart (representing the Chief Justice of Ontario), Mr Robert Owen, QC, (Chairman of the Bar), Mr Peter Thomson and Mrs Rosemary Thomson (Magistrates' Association) with other members of the association.

Ms Hesther Hallett, QC, (Leader, South Eastern Circuit), Mr Benjamin Nolan, QC, Mr M Sweet, Mr Peter Benson and Mr Jeffrey Lewis (North Eastern Circuit) with other members of the circuit; Mr D Watson (Northern Circuit), (Mr John Williamson (Pembroke College, Oxford), Mr David Wyld (Macfarlanes), Mr J F Avery Jones (City of London Solicitors' Company), Mrs P Grayburn (Surrey University), Ms Dawn Oliver (University College London).

Mrs Joan Mills (Durham University), Mr A Butcher, QC (chairman, Garrick Club) with Mr J P Williams and Mr Nunc Willcox and other members of the club; Mrs Joan Wheeler-Bennett (Citizens Advice Bureau), Mr John Clitheroe and Mr Christopher Murray (Kingsley, Napley), Mr David Johnson, QC (20 Essex Street Chambers), Miss Elizabeth Lawson, QC (Family Law Bar Association).

Mr Richard Southwell, QC (1 Hare Court, also representing the President and Law Faculty of Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina), Mr Ami Feder (Head of Chambers, Lamb Building), Mr Philip Kramer (Newcastle Reformed Synagogue), Mr Nigel Pascoe, QC, (Leader, Western Circuit) and Mrs Pascoe, Mr Edward Wilson (McCormacks), Miss Lucy Winskell (Newcastle upon Tyne Law Society), Mr Christopher Frazer (*Counsel Magazine*).

Mr Gavin Henderson (principal, Trinity College of Music) with Mrs Victoria Dickie; Mr M Huebner (chief executive, Court Service) and Mrs Huebner, Mrs T Corcoran (Civil Appeals Listing Office), Mr A Ziff (Leeds Jewish Community), Mr David Harte (Newcastle Law School, Newcastle University), Mr Simon Wood (Old Novocastrian Association) and Mr Allan C Wilson (London Old Novocastrians Association) with other members of the association.

Mr Robin de Wilde, QC, (Professional Negligence Bar Association), Mr Roy Amlot (Criminal Bar Association), Mr T R Andhyarujina (Solicitor General of India), Mr Peter Scott, QC (Fountain Court Chambers), Miss Anne Rafferty, QC, Mr Richard Carey-Hughes and Mr Brian Barker, QC (Criminal Bar Association), Mr Michael Brown (Council of Tribunals), Mr Robert Williams (editor, *The Law Reports* and *The Weekly Law Reports*).

Mr Ian Sutherland (Law Reports editor, *The Times*), Mr N Percy Metcalfe (editor, *Criminal Appeal Reports*), Mr A Davis (Musicians' Company), Mr Michael Lee (Norton Rose), Mr Peter Morrish (Goldsmith Chambers), Mr David Willink (Judicial Appointments), Mr Nigel Sherlock (Wise Speke Group), Mr Bob Whalley (Immigration Policy Directorate), Ms Patricia F Smith (The Football Association).

Mr C Joseph (D J Freemans), Mr T Webster (Institute of Legal Executives), Mrs Gaynor Houghton-Jones (Justices Clerks Society), Ms Julia Braggins (ISTD), Ms N Bradwell and Mr I Robertson (Crutes Solicitors), Dr Hopkin Jones and Mr E J How (Hawks Club, Cambridge), Mr Julian Mallins, QC, (Ward of Farringdon Without), Ms Colleen Grafly (Director and Assistant Professor of Law, London Program Pepperdine University, Malibu, California).

Mr Ronald Bernstein, QC, Mr Ian Hunter, QC, Mr George Carman, QC, Mr and Mrs Jonathan Charkham, Mr D Baston, Dr and Mrs J Dobson, Miss Teresa Cahill, Dr Robert Raxton, Mr and Mrs John Torday, Mr Michael Harvey, QC, and Mrs Harvey, Mr Simon Bourne-Arton, QC, Mr Peter Collier, QC, Mr John Milford, QC, Mr Harvey McGregor, QC, Dr and Mrs P Andry, Mr Edward Nugee, QC, and Mrs Nugee, Mr and Mrs David Wardlaw-Lyles.

Mr Stuart Brown, QC, Mr and Mrs L Shurman, Mr and Mrs Peter Ellis, Mr D Emmerson, Mr Alexander Hermon, Professor Anna Riddell, Miss M Bowron, Mr John Bowron, Professor and Mrs L Maunder, Dr Robert Bell, Mr John Oliver, Mr E Pott, Mr and Mrs L J Keith, Mr David Robson, QC, Mr Stephen Stewart, QC, Professor Maurice Brown, Mrs J Brown, Mr Robert Francis, QC, Miss Nicola Davies, QC, Mr and Mrs Walter Hilton-Solomon.

Mr and Mrs K Hellawell, Mr Michael Lawson, QC, and Mrs Lawson, Mr Anthony Butcher, QC, Mr Ellis Birk, Mr Peter Heppel, QC, Mr Peter Hughes, QC, Mr Andrew Trollope, QC, Mr Florence O'Donoghue, Mr John Rylance, Mr James Goudie, QC, Mr Allan Levy, QC, Mr John Crowle, QC, Miss Hilary Heilbron, QC, Mr Richard Hone, QC, Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, and Mrs Scrivener, Mr Douglas Day, QC, Professor and Mrs Anthony Mellows, Mr Michael Sherrard, QC, and Mrs Sherrard.

Mr Robin Simpson, QC, Mr Colin Nicholls, QC, Mr Nicholas Brice, QC, Mr Roydon Thomas QC, Professor Royston Goode, Mr Stanley Brodie, QC, Miss Elizabeth Gloster, QC, Miss Presley Baxendale, QC, Mr Brian Altman, QC, Mr William Clegg, QC, Mr John Coffey, QC, Mr Ian Hunter, QC, Mr Edward Raw, Mr David Vaughan, QC, and Mrs Vaughan, Mr Michael Beresford-West, QC and Miss Sheilagh Davies, Mr and Mrs Peter Ellis, Mr Simon Jackson, Mr and Mrs D Faith.

Mr W R Steer, QC, and Mrs Steer, Mr Michael Murphy QC, Mr and Mrs Jeffrey Rose, Mr and Mrs Mark Sheldon, Mr Michael Neale, Mr John Wilkinson, Mr Nicholas Valois, QC, Mr and Mrs David Brewer, Mr and Mrs J Bond, Mr David Fingleton, Mr Julian Bell, Mr and Mrs David Savill, Mr Roger Whitehead, Mr Andrew Robertson, QC, Mr John Fenwick, QC, Mr and Mrs Stanley Brilliant, Mr and Mrs Simon Brilliant, Mr N Bratza, QC, Professor and Mrs A L Crobie.

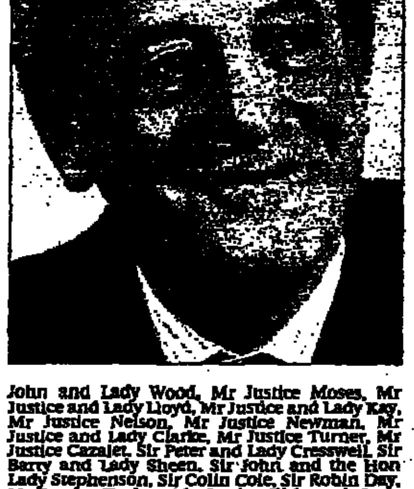
Mr Oliver Sells, QC, Miss Judith Jackson, QC, Mr M N Howard, QC, Mr Nigel Inglis-Jones, Mr Charles Whitby, QC, and Mrs Whitby, Dr A McEwan, Mr N Fox Bassett, Mr Ben Hytner, QC, Mrs P Langdon-Davies, Mr Christopher Knox, Mr Toby Hedworth, QC, Mr Benjamin Watts, Mr Paul Newbury, Mr and Mrs Dick Malthouse, Professor and Mrs Michael Zander, Brigadier and Mrs Charles Wright, Mrs J Birt, Mr Graham Addicott, Mr D Cosgrove, Mr J J Rowe, QC, Mr and Mrs J C Emmerson.

Miss Carol Ellis, QC, Mrs Annette Ellis, Mr Peter Parker, Mr Ian Brink, Mr Simon Hawkesworth, QC, Mr David Wilby, Mr Keith Warlmsley, Mr Jacob Potts, Mr Michael Hill, QC, and Mrs Hill, Mr Franz T Muller, QC, Mr Michael Gale, QC, Mr and Mrs Roger Kingdon, Mrs G Kingdon, Mr Evan Stone, QC, and Mrs Stone, Mr Gibson Grenfell, QC, Brigadier and Mrs P A Little, Mr and Mrs Brian Callwell, Mr Roderick Hunt, Mr and Mrs Michael Harris, Mr Anthony Harris, Mr Gordon Watson, Professor Jeffrey Jowell, QC, Mr and Mrs Edward Grayson.

Mr G Austin-Smith, QC, Mr James Evans, Mr Patrick Ground, QC, Mr Antony Edwards-Stuart, QC, and Mrs Edwards-Stuart, Mr and Mrs Gavin Anderson, Mr Jonathan Hall, Mr Gavin Pottinger, Mr Christopher Higham, Mr Andrew Phillips, Mr Hubert Picarda, QC, Mr Adrian Hamilton, QC, Mr David Penry-Davey, QC, and Mrs Penry-Davey, Mr J Michael Edwards, QC, Mr and Mrs Alastair Stewart-Richardson, Mr Terence Mowschenson, QC, Mr James Hunt, QC, Mrs M R Lyons.

Dr Mary Carbe, Dr Hyman Rose, Mr Robert Seabrook, QC, Mr Robin Gorham, Mr Alderman and Mrs David Brewer, Mr F Ashe Lincoln, QC, Mr Raman Subba Row, Mrs John Mowbray, Mr and Mrs Richard Stone, Mr David Pannick, QC, Mr Rodger Pannone, Mr Stephen Silver, QC, Mr Richard Hartley, QC, Mr Geoffrey Nice, QC, Mr J Morris, QC, Mr David Bean, QC, Dr Celia Palmer, Mr Neil Stewart, Mr Barry Rose, Mr Mark Fisher, MP, Mr J Korler, QC, Mr B Houlder, QC, Mr A Evans, QC, Mr Myles Atterton, Mr Hugh Lloyd, Mr Ian Corford, QC.

Mr Mark Havelock-Allen, QC, Miss A Foster, Mr Giles Nelson, Mr Nicholas Purnell, QC, Miss Diana Cotton, QC, Mr Andrew Stafford, Ms Linda Sullivan, QC, Mr Andrew F Jackson, Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC, Mr Stephen Lloyd, Mr Andrew Rigney, Mr Nigel Seed, Miss P Macdougall, Mr John Hiller, Mr Chris Folkmans, Mr Michael Shrimpson and many other friends and former colleagues.



A report of the memorial service for Lord Todd, OM, FRS, will appear in *The Times* tomorrow.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir Andrew Jardine, Bt, and Dr C.V. Griffith
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of the late Brigadier Sir Ian Jardine, Bt, OBE, MC, and of Priscilla, Lady Jardine, of Cheriton, Hampshire, and Claire Vyvien, daughter of Dr and Mrs William Griffith, of Shrewsbury.

Mr T.S.A. Lowther and Miss V.M. Whately
The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of the late Captain the Hon Anthony Lowther and of Mrs Lowther, of Cumbria, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Whately, of Dorset.

Mr S.R.K. Black and Miss E. Dunning
The engagement is announced between Simon Rupert Kay, son of Mr and Mrs A.G. Black, of Sand Hutton, York, and Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R.D. Dunning, of Gate Helmsley, York.

Mr G.L. Burke and Miss L.J. Tremlett
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, son of Mr and Mrs Lawrence Burke, of Mairangi Bay, Auckland, New Zealand, and Lucinda, daughter of Mr George Tremlett, of Elstead, Surrey, and Mrs Elizabeth Tremlett, of Woolbeding, West Sussex.

Mr D.R. Drummond and Miss S.E. Debenham
The engagement is announced between Ross, son of Mr and Mrs David Drummond, of Dunbar, East Lothian, and Susannah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Debenham, of Sayers Common, West Sussex.

The Rev V.J. Enever and Ms O.M. Blackburn
The engagement is announced between Vivian, younger son of Mr Richard and the Rev Susan Enever, of Rugby, Warwickshire, and Olivia, eldest daughter of the late Mr Raymond Blackburn and of Mrs Tessa Blackburn, of Chiswick, London.

Mr M.A. Fairless and Miss J.M. Fife
The engagement is announced between Matthew, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Alec Fairless, of Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, and Joanna, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Fife, of Dersingham, Norfolk.

Mr R.A.B. Foster and Miss D. Patkó
The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr Christopher Foster, of Fyfield, Essex, and Mrs Angela Rees, of Fairstead, Essex, and Dóra Patkó, daughter of Mrs Éva Ecsédi and stepdaughter of Dr Dénes Ecsédi, of Eger, Hungary.

Mr G.A. Innes and Miss C.H. Simpson
The engagement is announced between Guy, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Innes, of Hawkhurst, Kent, and Catriona, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Alec Simpson, of Berrima, New South Wales.

Mr P.R. Ivey and Miss S.H.E. Hill
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Ivey, of Fleet, Hampshire, and Sally, daughter of the late Patrick Hill and of Mrs Elizabeth Hill, of Caversham, Berkshire.

Mr R.R. Lewis and Miss T.J. Eastwood
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Cecil Lewis, of Geneva, Switzerland, and Tanya, daughter of Mr Richard Eastwood and the late Mrs Richard Eastwood, of Claughton-on-Brock, Lancashire.

Mr P.W. Martin and Miss L.E. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs D.W. Martin, of Grassendale, Liverpool, and Lindsay, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.D. Campbell, of Callow End, Worcester.

Mr G.C.S. Mather, MEP, and Mrs G.E. Fairhurst
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place shortly between Graham Mather, MEP, of Westminster, and Genevieve Fairhurst, of Shawdene, Newbury.

Mr I.S. Watson and Miss S.A.O. Raeburn, QC
The engagement is announced between Ian Smith Watson and Susan Adiel Ogilvie Raeburn.

Marriage

Prince Peter Frankopan and Miss J. Sainsbury
Nuptial Mass was concelebrated, with the personal Apostolic Blessing of the Pope, by Father Peter Bowe, OSB, and Pater Matija, OFM, of the Trsat Monastery, at the marriage of Prince Peter Doimi de Frankopan, of Croatia, eldest son of Prince and Princess Frankopan, to Miss Jessica Sainsbury, daughter of the Right Hon Sir Timothy and Lady Sainsbury, held on Saturday, July 12, at Douai Abbey. Cardinal Franjo Kuharić of Zagreb and the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster conveyed their blessing.

The bride was attended by Miss Cassandra Dormer, Florence Heathcoat-Amory, Tom, Ella and Olivia Woodward and Max Worsley. Archduke Eduardo von Habsburg of Austria was best man.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a garden party at Buckingham Palace at 4.00.

Princess Alexandra will also attend.

Princess Margaret, as President, Royal Ballet, will attend a performance by the Royal Ballet School at Holland Park Open Air Theatre, London W8 at 7.55.

The Duke of Gloucester will visit the East of England Agricultural Society Show, Peterborough at 11.00. Later, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, he will take the salute at the evening performance of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court at 7.15.

The Duchess of Kent, as Chancellor, will preside at the honorary degree ceremonies at Leeds University, Woodhouse Lane, 12.05.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence, was the host at a luncheon given yesterday at Lancaster House by Her Majesty's Government in honour of Mr Fumio Kyuma, the Japanese Minister of State for Defence.

HM Government
Mr Tony Lloyd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House to bid farewell to Dr Ante Čičin-Šain, the Croatian Ambassador.

The Royal Automobile Club
Mr Jeffrey Rose, Chairman, presided at the annual luncheon for the Senior One Hundred members of The Royal Automobile Club, held in the Clubhouse yesterday. Squadron Leader John Crampton, who joined the RAC in 1940, responded to the toast to the Senior One Hundred, proposed by Mr Rose.

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If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.
Romans 14 : 8

BIRTHS

BALFOUR - Kenneth and Ann (née Powell) are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their son Stephen James on Sunday July 6th 1997, a brother for Robert and Mark.

BLACKETT-ORD - On 14th July, to Nicolete (née Hobart) and Ben, a daughter, Cassiopeia Rosemary.

CALVERT - On July 12th 1997, to Tom and Tilly, a daughter, Susannah Honor, a sister for Jack.

CHAMBERS - On July 11th 1997, to Verity (née Hunt) and Michael, a beautiful daughter, Alice Felicity Rose, a sister for Patrick.

CLARKE - On June 25th 1997, to Mike and Vivienne (née Shortle), a son, Benedict Christopher James. A brother for Alex and another playmate for Max.

GIBBONS - On June 30th, to Jonathan and Rachel (née Tetley), a daughter, Camilla Elizabeth, a sister for Eddie, Oliver and Dominic.

GIBBS - On July 9th to Melanie (née Adcock) and Philip, a daughter, Alexa Maisie Jessica.

GIBBS - On 9th July 1997, to Nicky (née Taylor) and Simon, a daughter, Flora Mary Alexandra.

HAMILTON-JONES - On July 14th in Paris, to Nathalie (née Roos) and Charles, a daughter, Sara.

IRELAND - On June 24th, to Jo (née Gillis) and Johnny, a son, Francis Bernard Aubrey, a brother for Lucien.

KINNMONTH - On July 15th 1997, to Annie (née Thompson) and David, a daughter, Sophie.

LATHAM - On July 5th 1997, to Benny (née Coleman) and Patrick, a son, Milo Benjamin Patrick, a brother for Poppy and Alex.

LAWSON-MAY - On July 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Tracy and Neil, a son, Alexander William, a brother for James.

LLOYD - On 15th July 1997, to Richard and Irene (née Theophanous), a son. Welcome.

MACMILLAN - On 10th July at Luton Hospital, to Kirsty (née Rawlings) and Tim, a daughter, Ella Georgia.

MARTUS - On June 23rd at the Klinik Hirslanden, Zurich, to Sara (née Hucker) and Stephen, a beautiful daughter, Isabella Eloise.

McCABE - On July 12th 1997, to Becky (née Plumb) and Felix, a son, Sean Felix, a brother for Iona.

McCUNE - On July 10th 1997, to Prof. Christine Temple and Mr Leslie McCune, a son, Nicholas Robert Temple, a brother for Alexander.

OAKLEY - On July 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Melissa and Bill, a son, Robert Carter Frick, a new brother and buddy for Will.

PROCTOR - On June 24th at Samitivej Hospital in Bangkok, to Barbara (née O'Kane) and David, beautiful twins, Bethany Grace and Tobias Cornelius.

RIDLEY-SCHNEIDER - On July 12th, in Los Angeles to Jane and John, a son Finnian Jay.

SIMPSON - On July 13th, to Debbie (née Barlow) and John, a daughter, Lucy Victoria Kemp.

VILA - On July 10th, to Caroline (née Fea) and James, a son, Samuel Salvador Fea.

WIELAND - On July 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Caroline (née Ames) and Paul, a son, Joseph Jack, a brother for Max, Hannah and Isabella.

WIGGIN - On July 14th, to Simone and Daniel, a son, Edward John James.

DEATHS

BEAUMONT - Mary Veronica, beloved wife of Richard Beaumont, Southwell, Notts., on 15th July 1997 aged 83 after a long illness. Funeral 11.00am Saturday 19th July at Southwell Minster. No flowers please, but small donations may be made after the service to cancer charities.

CRAIGHEAD - On July 12th 1997, Alasdair Bourhill Knight, formerly of Edinburgh, died in Hertfordshire aged 87. Husband of Flora MacDonald MacInnes and father of Iain, Reginald and Catriona.

CRAWFORD - James Henry (26.10.22). Died peacefully on 14th July after a short illness. We shall miss him, Inge, Victor, Jackie, Robin and family. Funeral: 2 pm 23rd July, Elstree Parish Church. Family flowers only. Please send donations to 'Watford Peace Hospice Appeal', c/o Nethercott & Son, Radlett, WD7 8AX.

FIELDING-SMITH - Terry on 12th July whilst playing tennis. So much loved by Abbie, Lindy and Panda, Pam, and Dain, and by all his many friends. He was a very special man. Funeral 22nd July. Enquiries to E.J. Gomery & Son 01905 22094.

FREELAND - William Neil Munro (Neil), on July 14th, surrounded by love after illness borne with inspirational courage and humour. Beloved husband and dearest friend of Gill (Gilly), devoted father, son-in-law, father-in-law and Papa. Funeral private, no flowers. Thanksgiving Service for his life to be arranged. Donations if desired to League of Friends, Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton and The Lord's Taverners, c/o Stoneman & Sons, Doran Court, Reigate Road, Redhill, Surrey RH1 6AZ. Our thanks to all who cared for him at the Marsden.

GEORGE - Susan Mary on 11th July 1997 aged 82. Widow of John and loved and very respected mother of Caroline and loved grandmother of Annabel and Jonathan. Funeral Service Monday 21st July 1997 at 11 am St Laurence Church, Bidford-on-Avon. Flowers to Edward Jarvis, Greyfriars, Kings Coughton, Alcester, Warwickshire.

HARINGTON - Catherine at Strathrusdale peacefully on July 16th.

HARTZELL - On 12th July 1997, Elizabeth Jane, solicitor of Tunbridge Wells, widow of Howard Graham Hartzell, daughter of the late Canon L.H.W. and Mrs Bosley, loved and loving mother of Paul, Peter and James and their families, dear companion for 14 years of Councillor David Sinclair. Service of Thanksgiving at St James Church, Ferndale, Tunbridge Wells on Friday 25th July at 2 pm. Family flowers only, but if desired, donations to The Woodland Trust, Autumn Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL or to Hospice in the Weald, Allen Gardiner House, Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3QU. Enquiries to E.R. Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 522462.

JAFFÉ - Michael, on July 13th at home after a long illness, aged 74. Private funeral for family and close friends. Memorial Service in King's College Chapel, Cambridge during Michaelmas term (date to be announced). No flowers, but donations in his memory to National Art Collections Fund (0171 225 4800) or to British Heart Foundation (14 Fitzhardinge Street, London W1H 4DH).

MARR - Alan, aged 47, in hospital on 14th July after a courageous fight against cancer, much loved and greatly missed by his family and colleagues. Cremation at Cambridge Crematorium on Tuesday 22nd July at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for St George's Hospital Special Trustees (reg. charity 241527) Cancer Vaccine Campaign, at St George's Hospital Appeal Office, Blackshaw Road, Tooting, London SW17 0QT.

MILLS - (née Henn) Rosalind. Peacefully on June 18th, funeral has taken place. Thanksgiving Service will be held on September 20th 3.00pm at St James United Reformed Church, Palmerston Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex. Donations if desired to The Cancer Research Campaign c/o Gordon Hughes, Russells Solicitors, 119 Station Road, Chingford, E4 6BH. Cheques made payable to The Cancer Research Campaign.

MOLESWORTH - On July 10th, in her 96th year, Caryl Margaret, widow of H.W.L. Molesworth F.R.C.S. Much loved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Funeral 24th July 12 noon at The Town Church, St Peter Port. No flowers by request. Donations, if wished, to Guernsey R.N.L.I. c/o Martels F.S., Brock Road, St Sampson.

SHEFFIELD - Serena Mary peacefully on 14th July. Elder daughter of the late Reggie and Nancie Sheffield, devoted and dearly loved sister and aunt. Funeral at St Andrew's Church, Burton-on-Stather, North Lincs. at 2 pm on Tuesday 22nd July.

PHILLIPS - Suddenly but peacefully in hospital on 11th July 1997, Dorothy Alice, aged 86 years, of Sudbury, Suffolk. Dearly loved wife for 64 years of Alan, much loved and cherished mother of Andrew and Ruth. Proud and loving grandmother of Emily, Caitlin, Alice, Hannah, Tom and Oliver. Also loving mother-in-law of Penelope and Brian. Funeral and Thanksgiving Service in St Gregorys Church, Sudbury, on Friday, 18th July, at 12.30pm, and afterwards all welcome to nearby River House, on The Croft. Private cremation later. Family flowers only please. "For life, with all it yields of joy and woe, and hope and fear, is just one chance of the prize of learning love" (Robert Browning).

TURNER - Eleanor Margaret (Peggy) died peacefully aged 91 years on Sunday 13th July 1997 at Corbrook Court, Audlem, Cheshire. Peggy, beloved sister of John, sister-in-law of Alison and wonderful aunt of Rachel, Richard and Clare. Funeral Service at 11 am on Monday 21st July at St Oswalds Church, Worleston, Nantwich followed by committal at St Chads Church in Wybunbury. Donations if desired to St Oswalds Church, Worleston.

[illegible] - Muriel Gore died peacefully 14th July 1997 aged 76. Funeral Friday 18th July 10.30 am at Bethesda Chapel, Llangattock, Gwent. No flowers, but donations if desired to St Anne's Hospice, Harding Avenue, Malpas, Newport, Gwent NP9 6ZE.

VITOS - Stefan, aged 66, in London, on 23rd June. Affectionate former husband of Mardiah Luck (née Anne MacLean) and loving father of René, Laurens and Gemma, and proud grandfather of Max, Robin, Joshua and Hannah. A remarkable man whose erudition, charm, style, artistic talents, great kindness and spiritual insights enriched many people's lives.

WALTON - Edna May Walton, originally from Wales, but latterly of Burford and Shipton-under-Wychwood, died on Sunday, 13th July and went straight to Heaven. There will be a Requiem Mass at the Church of St John Fisher & St Thomas More, 171 The Hill, Burford, Oxon on Wednesday 23rd July at noon. All are welcome. Please send flowers to E. Taylor & Son, Corbett Road, Carterton, Oxon (01993-842421) or donations, if preferred, to the Church (as above).

YORKE - David John Napier Edward on July 12th 1997, devoted and adored husband of the late Anne, and June; Loved and loving father of Charles and James, and grandfather of Philip and Henry. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Steyning, Sussex, on Tuesday 22nd July at 3 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if wished to St Barnabas Hospice, Columbia Drive, Worthing, West Sussex.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

COHEN - Judith Augusta Marie (née [illegible]), beloved wife for 51 years of Professor Henry Cohen, mother of Hillary Robert and granny of Alice and Emma, died of cancer on 17th July 1991. Sadly missed.

HALLYBONE - George Edward. In loving memory of George Hallybone who died on 17th July 1996. Remembered with affection by [illegible] and all his family.

HUDD - John 17th July 1996. It seems like yesterday, I miss you so much darling Daddy. Always on my mind. Your daughter Patricia.

TREE - Richard Peter Baxter. Only 18 precious years. Miss you. Love you. Always. "Little one", Mum, Dad, and Lisa.

WHITTINGHAM - Peter. Ten summers have passed but your inspiration still guides us. Music, creativity, love - thank you for these gifts. We are living life to the full, and showing your grandchildren the way to follow.

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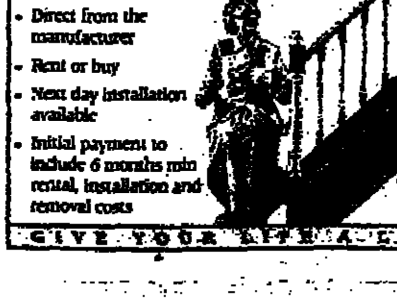

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OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR MICHAEL JAFFE

Professor Michael Jaffé, CBE, former Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, died on July 13 aged 74. He was born on June 3, 1923.

Michael Jaffé was one of the most successful museum directors of his generation. He had an extraordinary flair for finding objects of great beauty and rarity; his wide and close knowledge of dealers enabled him often to find them in unexpected places and at relatively modest prices; and he had the courage to buy things even when they did not conform to current taste and sometimes even when neither he nor anyone else could say for certain what their provenance was.

He always acted with energy and sometimes succeeded in acquiring paintings against what seemed like impossible odds, as when in 1976 he decided to try to buy the *Madonna and Child* by Van Dyck which had been sold by the Duke of Sutherland for £330,000 and the export of which had been stopped by the Reviewing Committee for the Export of Works of Art. Within a week or two of the time limit, when everyone thought he had no chance whatsoever of collecting the money, he was able to announce that a donor — who is still unnamed — had offered £100,000, and this enabled him to collect the remainder of the money required.

The self-confidence that these activities proved also manifested itself in an arrogance of manner which made him enemies. If anyone obstructed him he would say or write things of extreme violence and then be surprised and almost hurt to find that the recipient took offence. This manner also led to his not always being loved by his students or his administrative underlings.

Andrew Michael Jaffé was born in London, the son of a well-to-do Jewish banker who had formed an important collection of portrait miniatures. He was educted at Eton, where he was in College, and in 1940 won a scholarship to King's College, Cambridge, but preferred to join the Navy, in which he served from 1942 to 1945, becoming a lieutenant-commander. In 1945 he went up to Cambridge, where he read History and English, being awarded a first in Part II of the English Tripos in the History of Art. At Cambridge he was active in many fields, becoming president of the Marlowe Society and taking part in reviving *Granta*, which had stopped publication during the war, the first number taking the form of the *Prattler*, a parody of the *Tatler*.

In 1949 he enrolled for the BA course in the History of Art at the Courtauld Institute, but did not complete the course because in 1951 he was offered a Commonwealth (later Harkness) Fellowship to America, where he spent the two following years studying at Harvard and the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University. He kept up his connection with the United States and was visiting professor at Washington University, St Louis, in 1960-61.

In 1952 he was elected to a fellowship at King's and for the next twenty years played an important part in the life of the college, particularly in matters connected with the arts. He was largely responsible for the changes made in the arrangement of Hall, and for the redecoration of the senior common room, and he designed the layout of paving and cobble stones outside the front gate of the college and round the west end of Chapel. When in 1961 Rubens's *Adoration of the Magi* was presented to the college by Major A. E. Allnatt, he was the Fellow charged with finding a suitable setting for it. It was entirely due to his energy and pertinacity that the college eventually decided to put it against the east wall of the Chapel, a project which involved drastic alterations to the choir, including the lowering of the eastern part of the pavement and the removal of the panelling round the east end (18th and 19th-century arrangements respectively) — both alterations which aroused considerable opposition.

At the same time he was active in university affairs, particularly in the setting up of a department of Art History. In this he had to overcome resistance both from the more old-fashioned senior members of the university, who considered the subject frivolous and not susceptible of scholarly treatment, and from some members of the faculty of Architecture, who viewed it with positive hostility; but once again his energy and persistence defeated the opposition. In 1970 the subject was approved for Part II of the Tripos, and Jaffé was made a lecturer in the History of Art; in 1973 he was made Professor, just at the moment that he was offered the Directorship of the Fitzwilliam Museum on the resignation of David Piper.

In the following years he saw through the completion of the extension to the galleries and offices of the museum, the plans of which had been prepared by his predecessor. He went on to secure some remarkable acquisitions, many of which might normally have been beyond the means of a small museum with a derisory purchase grant; most valuable among them was Renoir's *Place Clichy*, bought for £1 million in 1986 from Sarah Price, daughter of R. A. Butler and his first wife Sydney (née Courtauld).

In 1972 Sir Hamilton Kerr had given his house at Whittlesford and a considerable sum of money to the university, without precise instructions about the use to which it should be put, and in 1975 Jaffé persuaded the university to use it to house a centre for training in the conservation of easel paintings. He succeeded in collecting the additional funds required for the scheme from various charitable organisations and the Institute was opened in 1975 under the direction of Herbert Lank.

Meanwhile Jaffé had been actively pursuing his research. His achievement in scholarship was based on the fact that he had the courage to take up the study of Rubens, a subject from which other students of art history had been frightened off by the fact that Ludwig Burchard was still alive and had accumulated a vast amount of material on Rubens of which he published only a very small part. Jaffé decided not to be deterred by this obstacle and within a few years had established himself as the leading expert on Rubens — and his associates Van Dyck and Jordaens — among the younger generation of English scholars.

In 1954-55 he "discovered" Van Dyck's Antwerp Sketchbook in the library at Chatsworth, where it had long been known to scholars but had been dismissed as the work of a follower. He published it in 1966 in a fine edition with learned commentary. From the 1950s onwards he published articles on Rubens and his followers in many learned periodicals and in 1968 he organised a large Jordaens exhibition in Ottawa, where some of his bolder attributions were challenged and some controversy with other scholars ensued. In 1977 he published *Rubens and Italy* in which he incorporated material which he had published in articles in various journals, but also added much that was new, based on his recent research.

Although he suffered many years of poor health, he remained at the Fitzwilliam for 17 years, retiring as planned in 1990. Nor did illness prevent him from organising an important exhibition of Old Master drawings from Chatsworth at the British Museum in 1993; his four-volume catalogue of the Chatsworth drawings was published in 1994. He was appointed CBE in 1989.

He married, in 1964, Patricia Milne-Henderson, herself an expert in art and art history. She survives him with their two sons and two daughters.

ALWYN McKAY

Alwyn McKay, pioneer nuclear scientist, died in Oxford on July 3 aged 83. He was born on July 4, 1913.

ALWYN McKAY was part of the group working with the famous nuclear innovator Niels Bohr in Copenhagen towards the end of the golden age of atomic physics. This great European venture included pioneers from many countries. At the time of McKay's arrival, the researches of Enrico Fermi were just coming through from Italy, translated by a young Italian-speaking Austrian refugee from the Nazis, Otto Frisch.

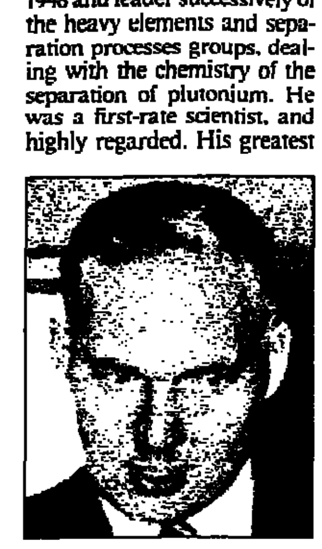
This work stimulated the next stage of discovery, with an appeal for money to buy six tenths of a gram of radium. With the neutrons that could then be produced, and the subsequent experiments concerning their passage through matter, a new picture of the atom's nucleus was constructed.

This in turn paved the way for nuclear fission, but by then McKay had moved on to a fellowship at Imperial College, London (1937), and then to become a demonstrator at King's College. But at that point war broke out, and before long he was in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Special Branch, working at the Admiralty and overseas.

Herbert Alwyn Cochrane McKay was the son of Herbert McKay, an author of children's stories and scientific and mathematical books. From Watford Grammar School he went to Balliol College, Oxford, where he took a first in chemistry. He then decided to go to Copenhagen.

His time with Bohr — 1935-37 — was crucial in the development of nuclear science under the menace of war. As McKay recounts in *The Making of the Atomic Age* (1984), Bohr was already "a legend in his own country. As the foremost Danish savant, he lived in the Residence of Honour in the grounds of the Carlsberg brewery, with pilsner and lager on tap . . . His colleagues would stand up respectfully when he came into the lunch room." The influence of this formidable character left an enduring mark on McKay's own researches as a nuclear chemist.

After release from the Navy in 1947, he joined the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, becoming principal scientific officer in 1948 and leader successively of the heavy elements and separation processes groups, dealing with the chemistry of the separation of plutonium. He was a first-rate scientist, and highly regarded. His greatest strength lay in the thermodynamics of aqueous solutions. Dealing with the most complex subjects, he had also to explain his work to newcomers to the disciplines.



For two years he was seconded to be director of the Cento Institute of Nuclear Science in Tehran, and a posting to the Atomic Research Station in Ghana left him with a continuing concern for that country's wellbeing. He retired in 1980.

Many nuclear scientists have searched their consciences about their work. McKay lived at ease with his because he was committed to a basic change of attitude to our stewardship of "energy capital". His Christian faith had been fostered during his undergraduate years by Frank Bushman's Oxford Group (later Moral Re-Armament).

In 1947 he married Hilda Honey, who predeceased him. He is survived by his brother Dermot. Their joint translations of children's songs from Swedish are shortly to be published.

LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST

George Edward Charles Hardinge, 3rd Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, publisher, died on July 14 aged 75. He was born on October 31, 1921.

GEORGE HARDINGE was a distinguished publisher of crime novels, who worked for 35 years with Collins, Longman and Macmillan. Among the crime writers he edited were Agatha Christie, Ngaio Marsh, Nicholas Blake, Julian Symons and Ellis Peters.

He had arrived at Collins in 1951 with nothing in the way of a publishing background. Indeed, even his writing experience was confined to contributing notices of films to the *National Review*, the right-wing monthly run by his grandmother, Viscountess Milner (otherwise most of his time was spent near her home in Sussex running a market garden).

His first footsteps in publishing could, therefore, have been precarious. At the time Collins was the most effective trade publisher in London, with excellent sales, production and promotion, all overseen by its famous chairman, Sir William ("Billy") Collins — with his wife keeping a pious eye on the religious division.

Hardinge had been deliberately brought in to expand the firm's new Crime Club. This he very efficiently did. But during his career he encouraged talent far beyond that of crimewriters, handling such authors as Nina Bawden, E. P. Thompson and Mary Wesley.

Leaving Collins in 1957, Hardinge spent the next four years with the rival firm of Longman's. But in 1961 he returned to Collins, again with the specific brief to rejuvenate the Crime Club. This second coming did not, however, last much longer than his first. It ended in a confrontation with Billy Collins, who did not like his editors becoming too successful or independent (one who became an MP promptly lost his place on the board).

Hardinge in 1968 moved to the family house of Macmillan, where he launched a brand new crime list, which has gone from strength to strength. Retiring from Macmillan's in 1986, he became a consultant with *Headline*, which published popular fiction and later took over Hodder & Stoughton. Ellis Peters was one author who followed him from Collins to Macmillan and finally to Headline.

Under the name of George *Milner*, he wrote crime novels himself, and he was elected to the exclusive Detection Club, the rules of which forbade authors to use divine revelation, feminine intuition, acts of God and similar as means for the detection of a crime.

He was the author of a delightful book called *An Incompleat Angler* (1976). This was a quasi-autobiography, with descriptions of his childhood, woven around tales of fishing and favourite stretches of rivers. He was a founder member of the Booker Prize for Fiction, having been involved in a scheme initiated by Booker's chairman Sir Jock Campbell to buy up the rights of living authors, such as Ian Fleming, in order to alleviate some of their tax liabilities.

George Edward Charles Hardinge came from a distinguished family. His grandfather, the 1st Baron, was Viceroy of India, and his father, the 2nd Baron, was Sir Alec Hardinge, Private Secretary to King Edward VIII and the man who in 1936 was forced to alert the King to the fact that the newspaper silence over Wallis Simpson was about to break. His mother Helen Cecil was the daughter of Lord Edward Cecil and his wife Violet Milner.

Hardinge was, therefore, brought up in royal circles, playing cricket with his sisters in Colour Court at St James's Palace, using the ceremonial colour-holder as a wicket. As a boy he served as page of honour to three Kings between 1933 and 1938, and was a trainbearer to King George VI (whom his father also served as Private Secretary) at the 1937 Coronation.

Hardinge was educated at Eton and Dartmouth, where he passed out top. During the Second World War he served in HMS *Naiad* and HMS *Medway*, in both of which he was sunk. He also served in *HMS King George V*. He was in Malta during the siege, working for the Commanding Officer of Submarines. When King George VI visited the island in 1942, he made a point of asking to see him. Immediately after the war he was appointed acting lieutenant-commander while serving as secretary to the naval attaché in Paris.

Although the son of a courtier, George Hardinge always went his own way in life. His father retired as George VI's Private Secretary in 1943, following a disagreement with his deputy Sir Alan Lascelles, which made it impossible for the two men to continue working together. (The official reason given was ill-health.) The false allegation that he had been sacked — later disproved — was something that preoccupied both George Hardinge and his sisters for some years. Hardinge's son, Julian, is a godson of the present Queen and served as her page of honour, thus continuing a long family tradition.

Hardinge was twice married. His first wife was Janet Balfour, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Balfour, a colonial governor in Sudan and Mongalia Province, and a nephew of Arthur Balfour. When they married in 1944, Hardinge wrote to King George VI asking if he could spend his honeymoon on the Balmoral Estate, having remembered with great happiness the family holidays he had spent at the house above Loch Muick, Alma-Guisach. The King wrote back in his own hand, offering him Birkhall. Hardinge and Janet had three sons but divorced in 1962. She died in 1970. He married secondly, in 1966, Mrs Margaret Trezise, daughter of William Jerrum, and had a further son. He also adopted her son by the previous marriage.

Hardinge was a tall and distinguished-looking man with impeccable manners. He succeeded his father as 3rd Baron Hardinge of Penshurst in 1960 and, as an hereditary peer, spoke occasionally on naval matters in the House of Lords.

He is survived by his second wife Margaret. The eldest son by the first marriage, Julian, born in 1945, now succeeds as 4th Baron Hardinge of Penshurst.

ON THIS DAY

July 17, 1913

"The honour paid to Mr Bridges is an honour paid to poetry. Mr Bridges, as poet, is no politician," wrote The Times *on his appointment. A shrewd comment, since Bridges's predecessor, Alfred Austin, perhaps the least regarded of modern laureates, had obtrusive political views.*

NEW POET LAUREATE.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. ROBERT BRIDGES.

The King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. Robert Bridges, D.Litt, to be Poet Laureate.

Mr Bridges, who was born in 1844, was educated at Eton and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, of which he is an honorary Fellow. After leaving Oxford he spent some time travelling, and subsequently studied medicine at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He became casualty physician at St. Bartholomew's, and afterwards held appointments at the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond-street, and the Great Northern Hospital. He retired in 1882. An estimate of his poetry will be found in our leading article.

The New Poet Laureate.

The appointment of Mr. Robert Bridges as Poet Laureate puts a very satisfactory conclusion to a widespread controversy. For some reason, the general public appears to have taken an unprecedented interest in the question who was to succeed Mr. Alfred Austin, or whether anyone was to succeed him. Many expressed the opinion that the office of Poet Laureate had outlived its purpose and its honour, and should be abolished. Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, in his recently-published volume, makes the half-jocular suggestion that the office should be maintained, but conferred (in a manner which would have a Chinese flavour about it) on a poet already dead — "to benefit his family and to point out the beauties of his works to an otherwise indifferent posterity". The correspondence columns of the newspapers have held many letters from people who had each his favourite to recommend to notice. In nearly every case among these last it was to be observed that the claim was made not solely on the grounds of poetry. Politics, party, patriotism (in the narrower sense) seemed to be the determining factors.

It is not wholly improbable that these considerations may have had some indirect influence on the appointment of Mr. Robert Bridges. Whether it be so or not, the honour paid to Mr. Bridges is an honour paid to poetry. Mr. Bridges, as poet, is no politician. He is a poet and an earnest student and practitioner of the art and the science of poetry. Mr. Bridges has given to poetry what Seymour Haden gave to etching, and more. He has studied profoundly and practically the origins, the values, the philosophy of words, of rhythms, of metres. Probably no man living knows more of these matters than Mr. Bridges. His work on the prosody of Milton began a new chapter in criticism; and only the week before last we reviewed in the *Literary Supplement* his authoritative and daring book on the mispronunciation of English. To these and other critical tasks he has brought learning, fine taste, courage and science; while, as the author of narrative and lyrical poems and of poetical plays, he has exhibited, in addition to these qualities, a lofty passion for poetic beauty. The passion of the artist for beauty is the pure motive of Mr. Bridges's poetry; and the honour paid to him is an honour paid to poetry for her own sake.

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■ TURKEY for a week for £319 a person with a flight from Gatwick on July 27 is on offer from Accommodation Overseas and includes B&B in two-star hotels in Dalyan or Hisaronu. Price based on two sharing. Details: 0181-977 2984.

■ ST LUCIA for a week with room-only accommodation for £439 a person (children £349) is among reduced Caribbean offers from Style Holidays. Fly from Gatwick on July 27. Details: 0181-568 1999.

■ MAGIC of Egypt tours for eight days — flying from Heathrow on July 28 and taking in the Pyramids and Valley of the Kings — are available from Bales Tours for £620 a person, including B&B accommodation. Details: 01306 885991.

■ AN AUBERGE in the Ariège region of the Pyrenees with excellent views and ancient sites near by is available on certain dates from The Gascony Secret. Price: £300 a person in a party of two with a week's B&B and ferry crossing. Details: 01284 827253.

■ ALL-INCLUSIVE holidays in a resort in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for £899 for a fortnight are available from Airtours with flights from Gatwick and Manchester every Monday in August. Details: 0541 507109.

■ CYCLING through the Cotswolds on a planned route from Leamington to Cheltenham is available from Compass Holidays for £299 a person including six nights accommodation in small hotels and inns. Service back-up, tour packs, cycle hire available. Details: 01242 250642.

■ A SAFARI package to South Africa for ten days is available for £899 a person from Travelplanners with a flight from Gatwick on August 16, hotel accommodation in Johannesburg and Durban and escorted tours to game reserves. Details: 0990 280083.

■ THE Costa Brava for £289 a person for Bank Holiday week in self-catering accommodation, with a flight from Glasgow on August 24, is on offer from Cosmos. Details: 0161-480 5799.

FERRIES

■ SEA France has cut peak prices on Dover-Calais to £95 return for a car and nine passengers. Bookings by July 26 for travel by August 31. Details: 0990 711711.

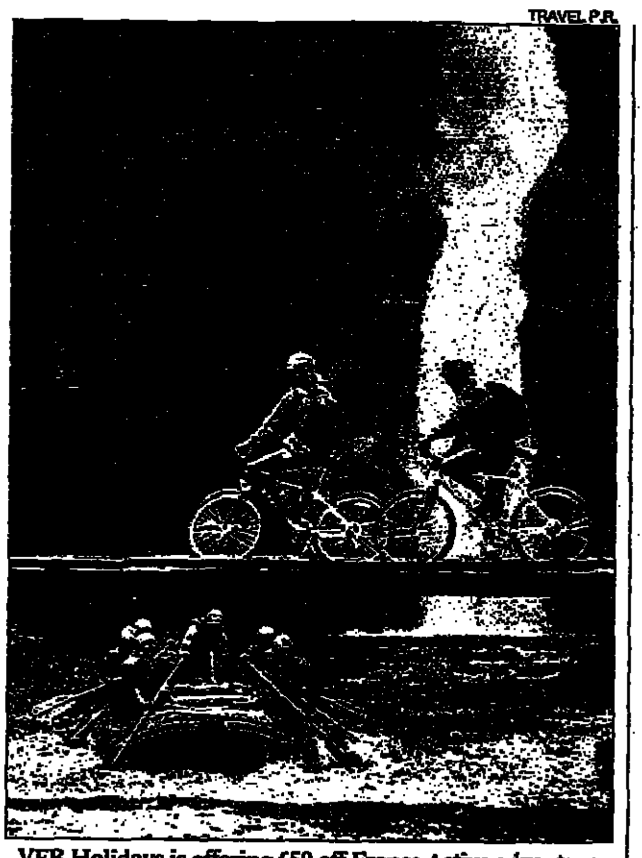
■ IRISH Ferries has seven-night holidays leaving July 26 in apartments in Co Clare, from £140 per person based on four adults travelling. Details: 0990 170000.

■ TRAVEL agents A.T. Mays and Artac WorldChoice have several ferry deals on routes to France and Ireland. They include £110 returns on P&O's Dover-Calais route. Details: 0990 000888.

■ HOVERSPEED has £129 crossings on Folkestone-Boulogne for a car and five passengers. Bookings must be made 14 days in advance. Valid until August 31. Details: 0990 240241.

■ SCANDINAVIAN Seaways has an eight-night holiday to Lakeland Holiday Centre in Jutland, departing July 31, for £1,140, for a family of four, including crossing. Details: 0990 333111.

TRAVEL P.R.



VFB Holidays is offering £50 off France Active adventure holidays taken after August 20 provided bookings are made before July 30. Two adults and two children can spend seven nights in Les Deux-Alpes near Grenoble in a self-catering apartment for £428. Telephone: 01242 240332.

FLIGHTS

■ QANTAS and BA have new excursion fares from £769 to all major Australian gateways with a stopover in Bangkok, Singapore or Tokyo, plus two flights within Australia. Travel between August 10 and November 30, or January 21 to March 31. Details: 0345 747767.

■ AIR UK's latest Euroff fares cost £69 to Amsterdam, Copenhagen £89, Dusseldorf £89, plus Hamburg and Munich £99. Details: 0345 666777.

■ AB Shannon has added weekend flights on the Gatwick-Shannon service, starting at £75 return. Details: 0345 464748.

■ LUPUS Travel has special excursion fares to most Italian destinations, ranging from Milan and Venice to Brindisi and Palermo. Prices range between £160 and £240. Book by today for Rome, Milan and Venice. Details: 0171-306 3000.

■ ATAB has a Crossair excursion from London City to Geneva priced between £129 and £159. Details: 0171-636 5000.

HOTELS

■ THE Millennium & Copthorne Hotels chain is offering two nights accommodation with breakfast at 11 four-star hotels throughout the UK for £99 a couple until August 31. Other discounted offers are available at the chain's continental hotels. Details: 0645 455445.

■ LUCKNAM Park Hotel near Bath is offering a two-course lunch in its Michelin-starred restaurant for £10 a person until July 27 as part of the Bath International Taste Extravaganza Festival. Details 01225 742777.

■ TO CELEBRATE the golden wedding anniversary of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Priest House hotel on the banks of the River Trent near Castle Donington has a special offer until the end of the year for couples celebrating their 50th anniversary. The two-night package costs £54 a person a night and includes dinner, champagne, chocolates and flowers. Details 01332 810649.

■ THREE nights for the price of two are available at several French hotels featured in the new *Aspects of France* regional directory from the Small Luxury Hotels of the World consortium. Offer valid until March 31 next year. Details 0800 964470.

■ STAY five nights at Reid's Palace Hotel in Madeira before September 30 and receive three free dinners and a room upgrade where available. Offer available through Leading Hotels of the World. Details: 0800 181123.

■ SEE the Cannizaro Park open-air theatre festival until August 17 and enjoy a pre-theatre dinner at the nearby Cannizaro House Hotel in Wimbledon. Price for dinner and ticket is £37.75 a person, with overnight accommodation at £65 a person. Details: 0181-879 1464.

■ SUMMER rates from the ITT Sheraton Hotel chain start at £65 a night at the Sheraton Heathrow, rising to £160 a night at the Sheraton, Park Lane. Offers available until September 5 at other UK and continental Sheraton Hotels. Details: 0800 353535.

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Where to find last-minute breaks

By Tony Dawe

IF YOU'VE left booking your summer holiday until the last moment and the schools have already broken up there are thousands of places still available for those prepared to be flexible. But they do not come at bargain prices.

Those who have delayed booking a summer holiday in the hope of last-minute discounts are almost certain to be disappointed. Travel agents and tour-operators expect strong demand to continue as people benefit from building society and insurance company windfalls.

The Spanish islands of Majorca, Ibiza and the Canaries continue to be the most popular destinations. Few packages remain. For long-haul holidaymakers, Florida is the prime target.

For those eager to cross the Channel to take advantage of ten French francs to the pound; few berths remain on the western routes.

But space can always be found, although it may be at inconvenient times, on the Dover-Calais crossing. In Britain, holiday cottages and hotel rooms are at a premium in the most popular areas including the West Country, Cotswolds and Lake District but tourist offices say that accommodation is available for those willing to stay a few miles from "the honeypots".

Thomas Cook reports that 80 per cent of holiday packages up until the end of August are sold out and though plenty may still be available, the travel agency warns customers that "unless you are flexible on dates and airports, you may be unlucky".

A spokesman adds: "Prices are generally higher than last year. The average price for one person for a week is £360. Greece, Turkey and Tunisia are cheaper. We expect July and August to sell out. If anything, prices will harden. The excellent exchange rate is encouraging people to travel. Demand is strong and will probably remain strong until mid-September."

Helen Leversedge of Thomson, Britain's leading tour operator, says that the inconsistent weather in Britain and the strength of the pound have helped to swell bookings this summer. She estimates that 8.8 million holidaymakers will have travelled abroad by the end of the season. "Tour operators have matched supply and demand well this year," she says, "so discounting in peak season is minimal. Flights are available to some of the popular resorts, but holiday beds are scarce."

The company still has some attractively priced holidays available for the first weeks of the summer holidays. A week's self-catering in Malta, with a flight from Gatwick next Tuesday, costs £293 a person, and a fortnight's self-catering in Turkey with a flight from Gatwick the next day is available for £395 a person.

Thomson adds that some cruise holidays also remain available throughout the summer because the leading operators have extended their programmes.

Lunn Poly advises that families who have left it late will still get a holiday, but they must be flexible. A spokesman says: "If, for example, they want a hotel they may have to take self-catering or vice versa. Flights from Gatwick and Manchester are still not sold, but you might have to be flexible on time and take a night flight to Europe or a less convenient flight to America."

He adds that France is a good place to try because the strong pound has only recently made it more affordable, so there have been fewer early bookings. The company is still offering £50 off French Life holidays from its Best of France brochure.

Brittany Ferries, however, is almost fully booked — except for foot passengers — on its popular Portsmouth-St Malo route. The first availability is midweek in late August. Return journeys are also fully booked until September 1. There is still some availability on the Portsmouth-Caen route. Brittany Ferries holiday homes are also almost sold out until after August 26.

Peter Chappelow, managing director of Country Holidays, a group with 10,000 holiday cottages on offer in Britain, says that those in "the honeypots" are fully booked and the only hope of getting a place in most popular West Country and Lake District areas is to find a last-minute cancellation.

Tourists tell of horror holiday

By Harvey Elliott

MORE than 200 package holidaymakers are threatening to sue two tour operators after dozens fell ill and others complained of foul conditions in the Dominican Republic.

The holidaymakers, all from the North West of England, claimed that they found slugs and cockroaches in their food, ants in their beds, a fouled swimming pool, birds pecking at meals and uncovered food, guests being served with stale leftovers and others mugged on a private beach.

The group had booked with two tour operators — Inspirations and Direct Holidays. On return, they immediately demanded refunds.

Patricia Doyle of Northwich, Cheshire, had treated a friend to a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the resort of Cabarete with Inspirations and was due to spend two weeks in a two-star hotel at a total cost of more than £1,000. "We were both ill for days," she says. "I have gathered the names and addresses of more than 200 people who feel the same. If I do not get a satisfactory response, we will put money in a pot and take the firm to court."

Other victims included Sidney and Dolores Mellor of Stockport, who were on honeymoon. They spent the first two weeks of their marriage living on bread and water.

Francis Torrilla, Inspirations marketing director, said none of the holidaymakers had written to complain formally, but an investigation would be held when they did. "We have had no problems with this resort before," he says. "Obviously, something went wrong this time. Sometimes, people expect the Dominican Republic to be like Antigua, but it isn't."

Hugh Boyle, the Direct Holidays managing director, says: "I have seen the accommodation and it seemed to be of good standard. There is a lot of poor accommodation and because there is a large influx of hoidaymakers, some operators may be having to put people up in these places. We will look into any complaints made to us."

What is claimed to be the first portable shelter to protect babies from the harmful rays of the sun has been launched in time for the peak holiday season. The Pod, designed in Edinburgh by Protection Outdoors, costs £49.95. It has a gold coating which, say the makers, screens out 97 per cent of all ultra-violet rays. Skin cancer mainly affects older people but babies are particularly vulnerable.

Canal tax will hit family leisure trips

By Nick Nuttall

CYCLISTS are to be charged £12.50 each to ride alongside one of Britain's best-known canals. And if the scheme — which would add £50 to the cost of a cycling holiday for the average family of four — is considered a success, it could be extended to thousands of miles of other towpaths throughout Britain.

Cyclists claim that the charge being piloted on the Kennet and Avon will force them onto more dangerous roads and discourage cycling to work and for leisure.

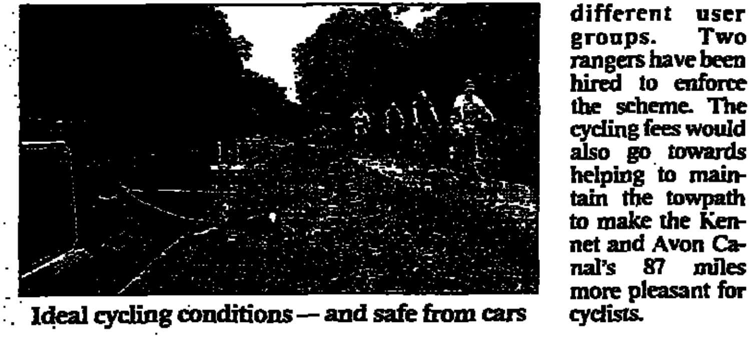
Alan Harlow, director of the Cyclists' Touring Club, says the £12.50, to be charged annually, is also at odds with the Government's strategy to boost the numbers of people who cycle in an attempt to reduce car usage and improve public health. He says: "Towpaths are ideal for meeting a national cycling strategy because they often offer safe access between conurbations."

Tony Ambrose, a spokesman for Recycle Your Sundays, which is organising a series of protests, says: "This is the only safe and flat route for cyclists to the east of Bath. The towpath is especially popular with families because it is the only route in the area they can safely cycle with their children. If the charges are imposed, there will be nowhere that many families will be able to afford to take their children to learn the pleasures of cycling. This British Waterways Board move will tax cyclists off the canal."

Cyclists claim that anglers and boaters' complaints against cyclists have partly prompted the board's actions.

Mr Ambrose says: "Nobody is saying that the testosterone mountain bike brigade does not need controlling. But this is not the way to go about it."

Boat owners pay an annual fee of £300 plus mooring fees and anglers pay up to £15 for rod licences. The board spokesman says the money raised from cyclists would allow the board to put more staff on the canal to resolve conflicts between different user groups. Two rangers have been hired to enforce the scheme. The cycling fees would also go towards helping to maintain the towpath to make the Kennet and Avon Canal's 87 miles more pleasant for cyclists.



Ideal cycling conditions — and safe from cars

A new line on mobile phones

By Alan Hamilton

MOBILE phones distress and depress me. The only safe escape from their relentless electronic tagging is on an aircraft. But I reluctantly confess that the instrument pressed into my hand to keep tabs on a domestic crisis proved its worth during last week's BA strike.

The world conspired to prevent my getting to Edinburgh. The BA shuttle was off the menu, but I managed to get the last available seat on the last British Midland flight of the day. Excellent news, except for the evil alliance of London Underground and a sudden monsoon downpour in central London.

I went, in good time, to Blackfriars Tube station, only to be confronted with a seething crowd and an operative refusing me entrance to the platform on the grounds of flooding, overcrowding, and the possible presence of serpents with tongues of fire. Time for a taxi to the nearest station on the probably unflooded Piccadilly Line. Fine, except that the rest of London also wanted a taxi.

A mad dash dropped me at Green Park with 45 minutes to go to final check-in. The Piccadilly journey was painfully slow. At five minutes before final check-in, I was only at Hammersmith. In desperation, I pulled from my pocket the foul device and phoned British Midland. "Do not," I commanded, "sell my seat to any passing standby layabout. I am on my way, battling through acts of God and the London Tube." The woman at the other end said she would log my call on the computer. I was left wondering whether this was decisive action.

I arrived, panting and glowing more than somewhat inside my city suit, at the check-in desk five minutes before scheduled departure. The occupant took a stern view. "Your seat has been sold. We are entitled to do this because you are so late. What time do you call this to turn up for a flight?" I should say, in case the woman loses her job, that this exchange was conducted with impeccable politeness. I said I had phoned ahead. "Hmm," she said, "I'll have to check." Things did not look good. The desk milled with standby travellers looking as though they would kill for any available seat. She disappeared into the back office for what seemed an eternity. Take-off time came and went.

Miraculously, she reappeared, with a huge smile and a boarding pass. "No trouble, Mr Hamilton," she said. "You are in seat 1D. We are boarding now."

What took place in the back office I do not know. I offered no bribes, threatened no recriminations, pulled no rank, and could show no frequent-flyer or other plastic tokens of flying privilege. It can only have been the phone call. All I know is that, when the flight landed in Edinburgh dead on time, it was a beautiful northern evening.

A tax on the bed

THE government of New South Wales has shocked Sydney hoteliers and tourism chiefs in Australia by imposing a 10 per cent bed tax, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

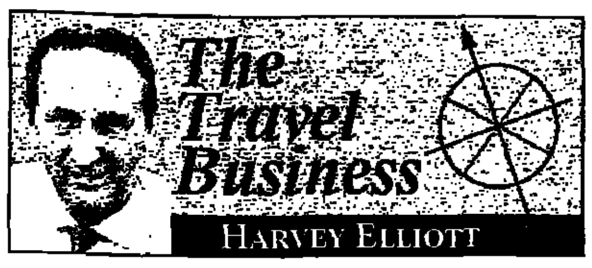
Many fear that the new tax will stem the number of visitors to the state just as Australian sport is attracting a fast-growing international following and the country prepares for the Olympic Games in 2000.

John Morse, managing director of the Australian Tourist Commission, said: "Our real concern is that the tourism industry's success over the past few years may result in it being seen as a cash cow for new taxes. The tax will most certainly put Sydney at a disadvantage."

Bob Carr, the Premier of New South Wales, claims that visitors would still go to Sydney whatever the cost and figures so far show that his optimism is justified.

Over the past 12 months the Australian Tourist Commission helpline has received more than 5,000 inquiries about golf alone. Well over 50 per cent of the calls are from Britain.

During the Games up to 200,000 visitors are expected to go to Australia.



Tourism and the road to recovery

Well over half of the 5.5 billion photographs taken each month are snapped by travellers and holidaymakers. And more than 20 per cent of the revenue taken by London shops comes from foreign visitors. These two facts illustrate how important travel and tourism is, not only as the world's fastest-growing industry, but also to other apparently unrelated activities.

If more people travel they will want more films, so more workers will be needed to make them and to process the resulting snaps. As shops rake in the money from visitors, so they can take on more staff to help to sell even more.

It is all a clear indication of why the Government's Welfare to Work programme should work.

There are many within the tourism — or "hospitality" — industry who believe that up to a million new jobs can be created in Britain over the next decade.

Few doubt that 250,000 "work placements" — the Government's description and target figure — can be found without really trying.

And Britain is not alone in discovering the enormous potential for growth and social improvement produced by our yearning to travel.

Some 262 million people are employed in travel and tourism — more than 10 per cent of the world's working population. By 2007 this is expected to rise to 383 million, creating one new job every 2.4 seconds.

While Eastern Europe and the Far East will see the biggest growth in jobs over the next decade, the opportunity exists for Britain to tap into the extraordinary surge in demand for travel.

But the potential can fully be realised only if the Government works *with* rather than against, the industry. It needs, for example, to ensure that teachers impress on youngsters that a job in the hospitality industry — covering all aspects of travel, transport, accommodation, food and drink, retail, information, reservations, leisure centres, visitor attractions, heritage sites, theatres, restaurants, castles, seaside piers, fashion shows, airlines, ferries and many more — is exciting and important. Too often it is looked down on as menial and dull.

Further education must also be geared towards producing the kind of people the industry wants. For example, 43 institutions now offer 75 tourism degree courses, and by 2000 will be producing 4,000 graduates a year.

But what the industry wants is not academics versed in the theoretical aspects of tourism, but people who have learnt how to recognise real customer needs and how to supply them. This means hands-on, practical training.

The Government must also learn to keep its fingers out of the till. It is all too easy for Gordon Brown — as other politicians around the world have done and come to regret — to regard the tourism industry as a cow to be milked at will. But every additional pound in tax means fewer visitors to provide the additional jobs.

And above all they must ensure that the minimum wage is not set too high. Anything above £3.50 an hour would bite hard, and the £4.50 an hour being proposed by the unions could result in a 14 per cent increase in the hotel and catering industry wages bill.

Travel and tourism can be the engine for economic recovery, job creation and happiness. Only the cack-handed intervention of politicians can shackle it.

> Every additional pound in tax means fewer visitors

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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Rebates plan for top-up pensions

■ The Government will today announce a shake-up of pension provision including a radical plan to give national insurance rebates to millions of people if they join flexible new personal schemes. The centrepiece of the proposals will be chance for everyone to hold a second "stakeholder" pension to top up their basic state pension .... Page 1

Brown reopens debate on EMU

■ Gordon Brown will launch a debate on European economic and monetary union and revive the fiercest political controversy of the past five years .... Pages 1, 11

Versace 'knew killer'

Gianni Versace, the Italian fashion designer, may have met his alleged killer .... Pages 1, 12, 13

Electric shock

An 86-year-old woman has spent 20 years without electricity after thinking she had been cut off because she used too little Page 1

Shares record

The stock market stormed to a record high and unemployment fell to its lowest level for seven years .... Page 1

BSE in humans

British research into BSE shows that infectious proteins from contaminated beef can, in laboratory tests, be transmitted to human tissue .... Page 2

Eiffel Tower strike

Tourists were turned away from the Eiffel Tower when employees went on strike over the sacking of a tour guide .... Page 3

Litigious priest

A clergyman was declared a vexatious litigant over his campaign on women priests .... Page 5

Spy camera row

Ministers were in conflict with the police over a refusal to use speeding fines to pay for more spy cameras .... Page 6

Oil disaster charges

Criminal charges are to be brought against senior harbour managers over the *Sea Empress* oil disaster .... Page 7

Hospital reform

Queue-jumping by patients of fundholding doctors is to be stopped and hospitals will have to admit people for treatment on medical need only .... Page 9

Golden words

A woman aged 25 who twice failed GCSE English has reportedly signed a £750,000 deal for her first three books .... Page 10

Korean border crisis

North Korean troops penetrated the military demarcation line with South Korea .... Page 14

French civil war

A barely civil war of words broke out between the two most powerful men in France .... Page 15

SIMON WALKER

Cilla Black, the television celebrity, with her husband, Bobby, and her son, Jack, at Buckingham Palace to be made a CBE.

BUSINESS

Telecoms: *BT* pledged to complete its £12 billion merger with MCI in the face of mounting losses in the American phone company's local business but left the door open to renegotiate the price .... Page 25

Boeing: The clash over the merger of with McDonnell Douglas came to a head when EU competition experts unanimously opposed the creation of the world's largest aerospace company .... Page 25

Banking: One of the top executives at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the troubled investment banking arm of Barclays, resigned to take the helm at Eagle Star .... Page 25

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 64.9 to 4964.2. Sterling rose from 105.1 to 105.2 up from $1.6743 to $1.6758; down from DM3.0141 to DM3.0124Page 28

SPORT

Golf: Tom Lehman begins the defence of the Open Championship with almost everything in apple pie order and swept along on a wave of support from the Scots .... Page 48

Cricket: Mike Smith, the Gloucestershire bowler, is to be called into the England party for the fourth Test after taking six Derbyshire wickets on the opening day of the Cheltenham Festival .... Page 44

Cycling: Another controversial stage finish in the Tour de France saw Serguei Outschakov, of Ukraine, relegated to third place for dangerous sprinting .... Page 46

Racing: Hawksley Hill produced a career best effort to win the £90,000 Hong Kong Jockey Club Trophy at Sandown, the most valuable mile race run at the course .... Page 42

ARTS

Tame T-Rex: Four years and dozens of imitative movies after *Jurassic Park* made us jump, Steven Spielberg's sequel *The Lost World* seems almost feeble .... Page 33

Old boys: Benedict Nightingale reviews *Divorce Me, Darling* at Chichester and finds Sandy Wilson's follow-up to *The Boy Friend* less hummable or touching than the original .... Page 34

Russian steps: The Kirov are getting to grips with the great choreographer George Balanchine - but *Symphony in C* and *Giselle* displayed some problems .... Page 34

Book worms: The Carnegie Award for children's books has gone to the controversial *Junk*, about two 14-year-olds seduced by heroin. What do teenagers think? .... Page 35

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Dr Thomas Stuttaford: Advice on psoriasis; folic acid deficiency; skeletons of monks; twin protection; an old remedy .... Page 16

Take a dekko: There are rules to decoration and they do not include coloured candles. David Hicks says that if you live in the suburbs, flying ducks are fine .... Page 17

Towpath toll: Leisure excursions may cost families extra if plans to charge cyclists on one of England's best-known canals are extended through the network .... Page 23

Late break: How to book a last-minute holiday .... Page 23

Belief betrayed: Terry Waite on Hezbollah; Jonathan Mirsky on Jonathan Dimbleby's *The Last Governor* .... Page 36, 37

The Algerian political scene is a shadow theatre and it is often extremely difficult to guess which play is being put on. Are we at a watershed in the Algerian crisis? Or is this just a new turn in the tactics pursued for several months by President Zeroual? As it is difficult to see the oligarchy in power committing political suicide after five years of armed struggle, one is forced to lean towards the second hypothesis — ***Libération*, Paris**

RADIO & TV

Preview: Johnny Kamara is serving life for murder but did he do it? *Trial and Error* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Peter Barnard on the man who talks to horses .... Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Eastward, look

Speedy enlargement will be the cardinal measure of Tony Blair's claims about Britain's "leadership" in Europe. Can he break the log-jams? Can he raise people's eyes to the horizon? .... Page 19

Dobson's choice

Doctors are taught that direct surgical intervention should be resisted whenever possible: it is a pity that Mr Dobson ignores best clinical practice .... Page 19

Junk fiction?

Children should be given a chance to think for themselves. They do, and they will. That is part of reading up and growing up .... Page 19

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

It is strange that in July 1997 the Church of England should formally adopt the economic philosophy of old Labour .... Page 18

MAGNUS LINKLATER

A Scottish Parliament armed with the ability to make laws and with spending powers could be a formidable engine for change .... Page 18

JOHN BRYANT

The row over the dropping of Roger Black from the 400 metres for the world championships says much about British athletics as it limps from one public relations disaster to another .... Page 43

PETER RIDDELL

Tony Blair is helping himself as well as Paddy Ashdown in deciding to press ahead with legislation for proportional representation in the European elections .... Page 8

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Professor Michael Jaffé, former Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; **Lord Hardinge of Penshurst**, publisher; **Alwyn McKay**, nuclear scientist .... Page 21

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Abortion; "fat cat" lawyers; Radio 4: junk mail; Versace .... Page 19

LOTTERY NUMBERS

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TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ POP
Chartbusting:
Alan Jackson reports on how Radio 2 is starting to influence the top 40

■ EDUCATION
The Dearing report: can there be one degree standard?

The Times Crossword Championship 1997 Qualifying Puzzle

Here is the qualifying puzzle for *The Times* Crossword Championship 1997, which will be held as a single session event on Sunday August 24, 1997, at the Royal Festival Hall, between 3pm and 6.30pm.

Please enter me for the 1997 crossword championship. I enclose my solution, a £10 entry fee (cheque no. .... payable to *The Times* Crossword Championship 1997) and a large stamped sae. The solution will appear on July 24.

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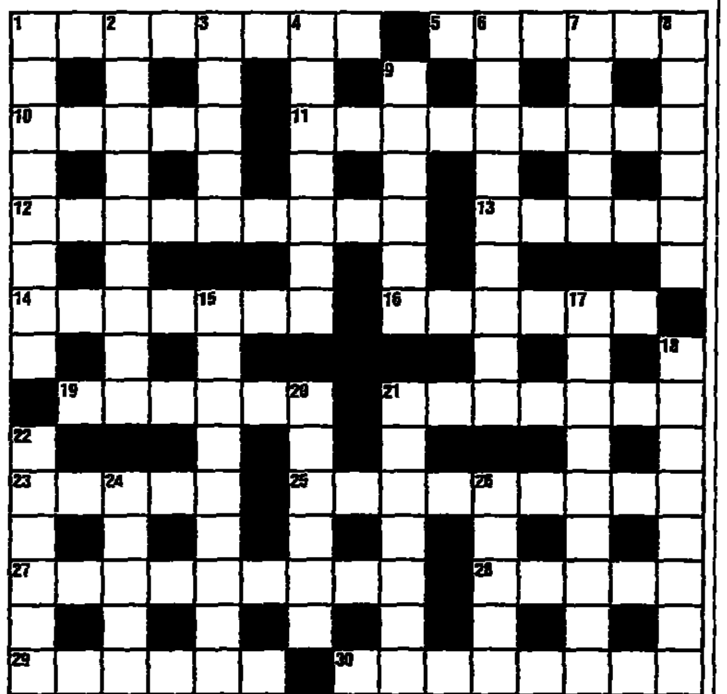
Send your entry to: *The Times* Crossword Championship 1997, 13, Church Lane, Ripon, N Yorks HG4 2ES. All entries must be postmarked no later than Wednesday July 23, 1997.

Competition Rules
1 Qualifying competitors will be those who correctly solve this puzzle and submit it to the competition address with a £10 entry fee and stamped sae, postmarked no later than July 23, 1997. 2 Qualifying competitors will be invited to the Royal Festival Hall, subject to the venue's capacity, on the basis of the least number of mistakes in the qualifying puzzle. 3 At the championship on Sunday August 24, competitors will be asked to complete four normal Times crossword puzzles with a time limit of 30 minutes each. 4 Competitors will be ranked firstly according to accuracy and, secondly, according to speed (no time bonus points will be given for an incorrect puzzle). 5 In the event of any dispute the decision of the Crossword Editor of *The Times* will be final. 6 Employees of Times Newspapers Ltd may not compete.

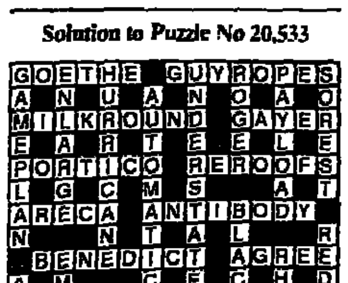
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,534



ACROSS
1 Ruth concealing brooch in slipper (8).
5 City section ready for merger when required (4-2).
10 As part of scoring effort, very short attack (5).
11 Prepare to punish soundly? Protest heatedly (5,4).
12 A group, originally, the king assembled (9).
13 Fare from Japan this US high-flier needs (5).
14 Heads off gun raid led without back-up (7).
16 How children can playfully send each other up (6).
19 Omniscient mastermind? (6).
21 Cover a dish from top to bottom (3-1-3).
23 Almost remove from container? Cooper's brave (5).
25 Save a sailor, one arriving at a romantic island (9).
27 Edward's old relative with poor vision (9).
28 Tenor's line in musical (5).
29 In sum I'd rejected last of raiment? (6).
30 Poet from American city entering verse competition (8).

DOWN
1 Northern town's run out of cake (5,3).
2 Sole means of punishment (9).
3 Upstart locks up David's victim (5).
4 Cambridge University (7).
6 Fail to turn out as expected (9).
7 Oriental's courtesan (5).
8 From Rome, now, I ring papal official (6).
9 Money for elementary education increased by two-thirds (6).
15 Man's bench (9).
17 Cat at home in green room? (9).
18 Refusal, say, to enter race (8).
20 Starting point for tales a poet put together (6).
21 Historian the exact opposite of 27, possibly (7).
22 Hamlet, deserted, in shade (6).
24 Take heads off chrysanthemum — you could also deadhead this plant (5).
26 Can journey to the interior and cross between wild animals (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,533



G	O	E	T	H	E		G	U	Y	R	O	P	E	S
A		N		U		A		N		O		A		O
M	I	L	K	R	O	U	N	D		G	A	Y	E	R
E		A		R		T		E		E		L		E
P	O	R	T	I	C	O		R	E	R	O	O	F	S
L		G		C		M		S				A		T
A	R	E	C	A		A	N	T	I	B	O	D	Y	
N				N		T		A		L				R
	B	E	N	E	D	I	C	T		A	G	R	E	E
A		M				C		E		C		H		D
D	R	E	A	M	U	P		M	A	K	E	O	F	F
O		R		U		I		E		B		N		A
R	E	I	G	N		L	A	N	G	U	E	D	O	C
E		T		R		O		T		R		D		E
D	J	I	B	O	U	T	I		I	N	W	A	R	D

Times Two Crossword, page 48

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.03 am
Sun sets: 9.19 pm
Moon sets 2.39 am
Moon rises 6.27 pm

Full moon July 20

London 9.09 pm to 5.05 am
Bristol 9.19 pm to 5.15 am
Edinburgh 9.46 pm to 4.53 am
Manchester 9.28 pm to 5.07 am
Penzance 9.25 pm to 5.23 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** East Anglia and SE England may be dry at first, but rain will spread from west. The rain will be mainly light. Wales, the Midlands and SW England will also have patchy rain at first, but it will become drier and brighter. Most of N England will be dry with sunny spells developing. Scotland and N Ireland mainly dry, some sunshine.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** starting dry, but drizzle and heavier bursts of rain spreading from west. Light and variable wind. Max 21C (70F).

☐ **Central S England, Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England:** a cloudy morning with patchy rain and drizzle. Drier and brighter from west in afternoon. Light northwest wind. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **E England, N England:** patchy rain in south, but dry with sunny spells later. Light northwest wind. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **Wales:** cloudy with rain at first, but dry this afternoon with sunny spells. Light northwest wind. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland:** mainly dry, small risk of showers. Light northwest wind. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cool and cloudy on coast, perhaps drizzle. Becoming brighter inland. Light to moderate northwest wind. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Outlook:** a few showers in South East tomorrow, but good spells of sunshine elsewhere. Some cloud in east on Saturday, but most places dry.

☐ **Pollen forecast:** low in N Scotland; moderate in N England and Midlands; all other areas low to moderate (supplied by Pollen Research Unit).

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

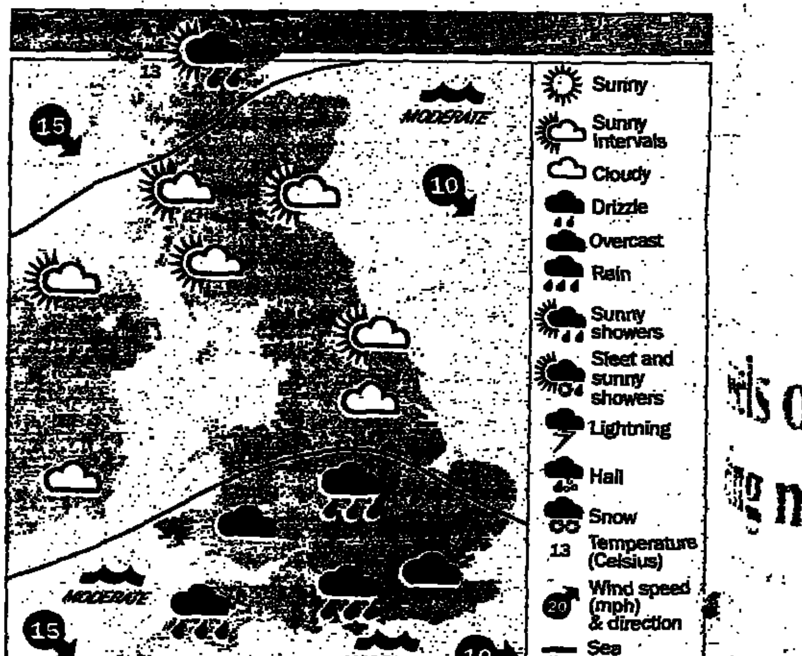
24 hrs to 5 pm. b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Aberdeen	3.1	0.46	21	70	sh	Isle of Wight	0.5	-	19	66	c
Anglesey	1.6	0.01	17	63	c	Jersey	0.1	0.01	18	64	c
Aspatria	1.6	0.08	19	66	c	Leeds	1.3	0.06	19	66	b
Aviemore	1.8	0.01	19	66	r	Lerwick	3.5	0.11	14	57	fg
Belfast	0.2	0.03	18	64	r	Littlehmptn	0.7	-	21	70	du
Birmingham	2.3	0.01	21	70	b	London	1.0	0.01	21	70	c
Bognor R	0.4	0.01	20	68	c	Lowestoft	1.8	0.01	20	68	r
Bournem'th	3.3	-	22	72	b	Manchester	-	0.01	17	63	c
Bristol	3.8	0.01	20	68	s	Margate	3.1	-	20	68	du
Buxton	0.7	0.07	15	59	du	Minehead	5.0	-	19	66	s
Cardiff	3.4	0.01	19	66	s	Morecambe	-	0.01	17	63	du
Clacton	X	-	19	66	b	Newquay	1.2	-	18	64	b
Cleethorpes	1.3	0.01	20	68	c	Norwich	2.4	0.01	20	68	c
Colwyn Bay	2.1	0.01	18	64	c	Oxford	2.6	0.01	21	70	r
Cromer	0.9	0.01	19	66	c	Penzance	X	-	21	70	b
Dunbar	3.8	-	21	70	b	Poole	2.4	-	22	72	s
Eastbourne	0.1	-	18	64	c	Ross-o-wye	2.6	0.01	21	70	b
Edinburgh	4.6	0.03	20	68	b	Salcombe	4.9	0.01	23	73	s
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.22	16	61	sh	Saunton Snd	0.4	-	18	64	du
Exmouth	4.4	-	21	70	s	Scarboro'	0.4	-	19	66	c
Falmouth	4.0	-	20	68	s	Shrewsbury	1.3	0.01	19	66	c
Fishguard	5.6	0.01	18	64	c	Southend	2.2	-	22	72	b
Folkestone	1.4	-	20	68	c	Southport	-	0.01	18	64	c
Glasgow	0.8	0.06	17	63	r	Stornoway	0.1	0.13	16	61	d
Guernsey	0.3	-	20	68	c	Teignmouth	4.7	-	22	72	s
Hastings	0.7	-	19	66	c	Tenby	1.7	-	19	66	c
Hayling I.	0.1	0.01	20	68	c	Tiree	0.9	0.04	15	59	r
Hove	0.5	-	19	66	c	Torquay	5.4	-	23	73	s
Hunstanton	1.1	-	19	66	c	Tynemouth	-	0.01	20	68	s
Isle of Man	1.1	0.01	19	66	b	Weymouth	3.5	0.01	21	70	s

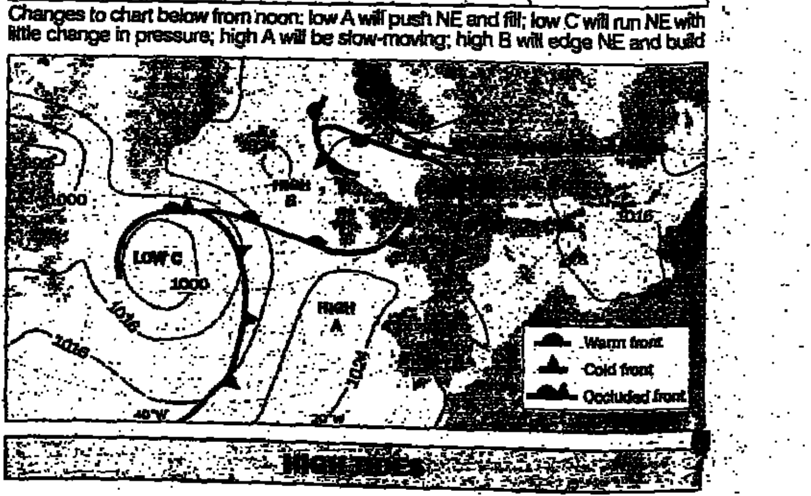
ABROAD

Ajaccio	27	81	s	Corfu	29	84	s	Majorca	32	90	s	Rome	27	81	s
Akrotiri	29	84	s	C'phagn	18	64	c	Malaga	28	82	f	S Fr'isco	18	64	s
Alex'dria	29	84	s	Dublin	19	66	r	Malta	31	88	s	S Paulo	26	79	s
Algiers	29	84	f	Dubrovnik	25	77	s	Melb'rne	7	45	f	Salzburg	16	61	c
Amst'dm	19	66	f	Faro	22	72	c	Mexico C	21	70	f	Santiago	14	57	s
Athens	29	84	s	Florence	31	88	s	Miami	31	88	s	Seoul	23	73	r
B Aires	15	59	s	Frankfurt	22	72	f	Milan	31	88	s	Sing'por	31	88	f
Bahrain	37	99	s	Funchal	23	73	f	Montreal	24	75	f	St'kholm	24	75	s
Bangkok	32	90	c	Geneva	25	77	s	Moscow	14	57	c	Strasb'rg	23	73	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	27	81	s	Munich	19	66	c	Sydney	16	61	s
Barcelona	28	82	f	Helsinki	20	68	f	N Delhi	30	86	f	Tangier	24	75	s
Beirut	30	86	f	Hong K	29	84	c	N York	36	97	s	Tel Aviv	30	86	f
Belgrade	19	66	r	Innsbrck	17	63	r	Nairobi	20	68	c	Tenerife	25	77	f
Berlin	23	73	f	Istanbul	25	77	f	Naples	29	84	s	Tokyo	31	88	f
Bermuda	28	82	f	Jeddah	41	106	s	Nice	26	79	s	Toronto	24	75	f
Biarritz	24	75	f	Jo'burg	17	63	s	Oslo	24	75	f	Tunis	37	99	s
Borde'x	26	79	s	L Angels	22	72	s	Paris	22	72	s	Valencia	28	82	f
Brussels	20	68	f	L Palmas	25	77	s	Peking	34	93	s	Vanc'ver	19	66	c
Budapest	25	77	f	Le Touqt	17	63	f	Perth	14	57	s	Venice	25	77	s
Cairo	32	90	s	Lisbon	24	75	c	Prague	19	66	f	Vienna	24	75	f
Cape Tn	25	77	s	Locarno	26	79	f	Reykjavik	14	57	f	Warsaw	22	72	f
Ch'church	5	41	X	Luxembg	21	70	f	Rhodes	29	84	s	Wash'ton	32	90	X
Chicago	20	68	s	Luxor	41	106	s	Rio de J	30	86	f	Wel'ngton	8	46	X
Cologne	22	72	s	Madrid	31	88	f	Riyadh	42	108	s	Zurich	23	73	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Tuesday. X - not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low A will push NE and fill; low C will run NE with little change in pressure; high A will be slow-moving; high B will edge NE and build



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	-	-	12.08	6.2	Leith	00.44	4.7	13.18	4.8
Aberdeen	-	-	12.03	3.7	Liverpool	09.38	8.1	22.08	8.5
Avonmouth	05.15	11.2	17.49	11.8	Lowestoft	08.03	2.3	20.16	2.2
Belfast	09.20	3.1	21.52	3.1	Margate	10.23	4.2	22.48	4.2
Cardiff	05.01	10.5	17.35	10.9	Milford Haven	04.23	5.7	16.58	6.0
Devonport	03.42	4.8	16.18	4.9	Newquay	03.21	5.8	15.52	6.0
Dover	09.26	5.8	21.47	6.0	Oban	04.13	3.2	16.55	3.4
Dublin (N Wall)	10.12	3.5	22.33	3.7	Penzance	02.49	4.6	15.20	4.8
Falmouth	03.13	4.6	15.47	4.7	Portland	04.55	1.5	17.33	1.7
Greenock	10.58	2.9	23.48	3.1	Portsmouth	09.58	4.0	22.16	4.3
Harwich	10.17	3.6	22.45	3.8	Shoreham	09.33	5.2	22.01	5.5
Holyhead	08.53	4.8	21.20	5.0	Southampton	09.11	4.0	21.34	4.3
Hull (Albert D)	04.38	7.5	17.08	7.6	Swansea	04.38	7.7	17.04	8.0
Ilfracombe	04.07	7.8	16.41	8.0	Tees	01.57	4.6	14.23	4.7
King's Lynn	04.43	5.6	17.07	5.7	Walton-on-N	10.15	3.7	22.42	3.7

All times BST. Heights in metres

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 23C (73F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 13C (56F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, 0.46in; highest sunshine: Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, 5.6hr.

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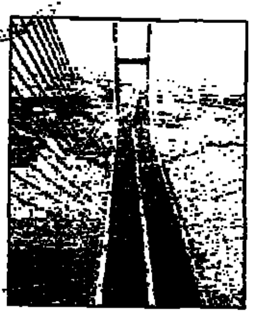
THE TIMES 2

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY

BUSINESS
Graham Searjeant says hands off our pensions
PAGE 29



FOCUS
Construction builds bridges to the future
PAGE 38-41

SPORT
Champion Lehman on the attack at British Open
PAGES 42-48

TELEVISION AND RADIO
PAGES 46, 47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY JULY 17 1997

Shares march to record levels

FTSE 100 pushes closer to 5,000 mark as New York and Frankfurt reach highs

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE stock market is expected to break through the symbolic 5,000 point level imminently as traders continue to drive the market, ignoring concerns about rising interest rates and the strong pound.

The FTSE 100 closed up 64.9 points at 4,964.2 yesterday, having at one stage during the day touched 4,991.8.

The financial services sector accounted for almost half the rise as bid speculation and stock shortages continued to push prices higher. Pharmaceutical stocks also continued to attract buyers as results from American competitors pointed towards rising drug sales.

International markets also moved to record highs. In New York the Dow Jones broke through the 8,000 level, while European stock markets received a boost from the dollar's renewed climb on the foreign exchanges. The Paris CAC-40 closed up 37.31 points at 2,988.01, while the Dax 30 in Frankfurt finished at a record high of 4,201.24.

Dealers said strong overseas interest and the high level of cash held by institutional funds was likely to continue to push the London market higher. But many economists are sceptical about whether the rise can be maintained, with further interest rate rises expected in the coming months.

Fears of another quarter-point rate rise next month receded only slightly yesterday after the latest employment data showed a fall in average earnings growth despite another large decline in the number of people out of work.

Average earnings rose by 4.25 per cent in June, compared with 4.5 per cent the previous month, as the City bonus round came to a close. The increase in service sector earnings also slowed slightly, falling a quarter point to 4.5 per cent.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment declined a further 36,500 to 1,600,800 or 5.7 per cent of the total workforce. The Office for National Statistics said the impact of the introduction of the Jobseekers' Allowance had now dropped out of the figures and that the trend fall in unemployment was running at 20,000 to 35,000 a month.

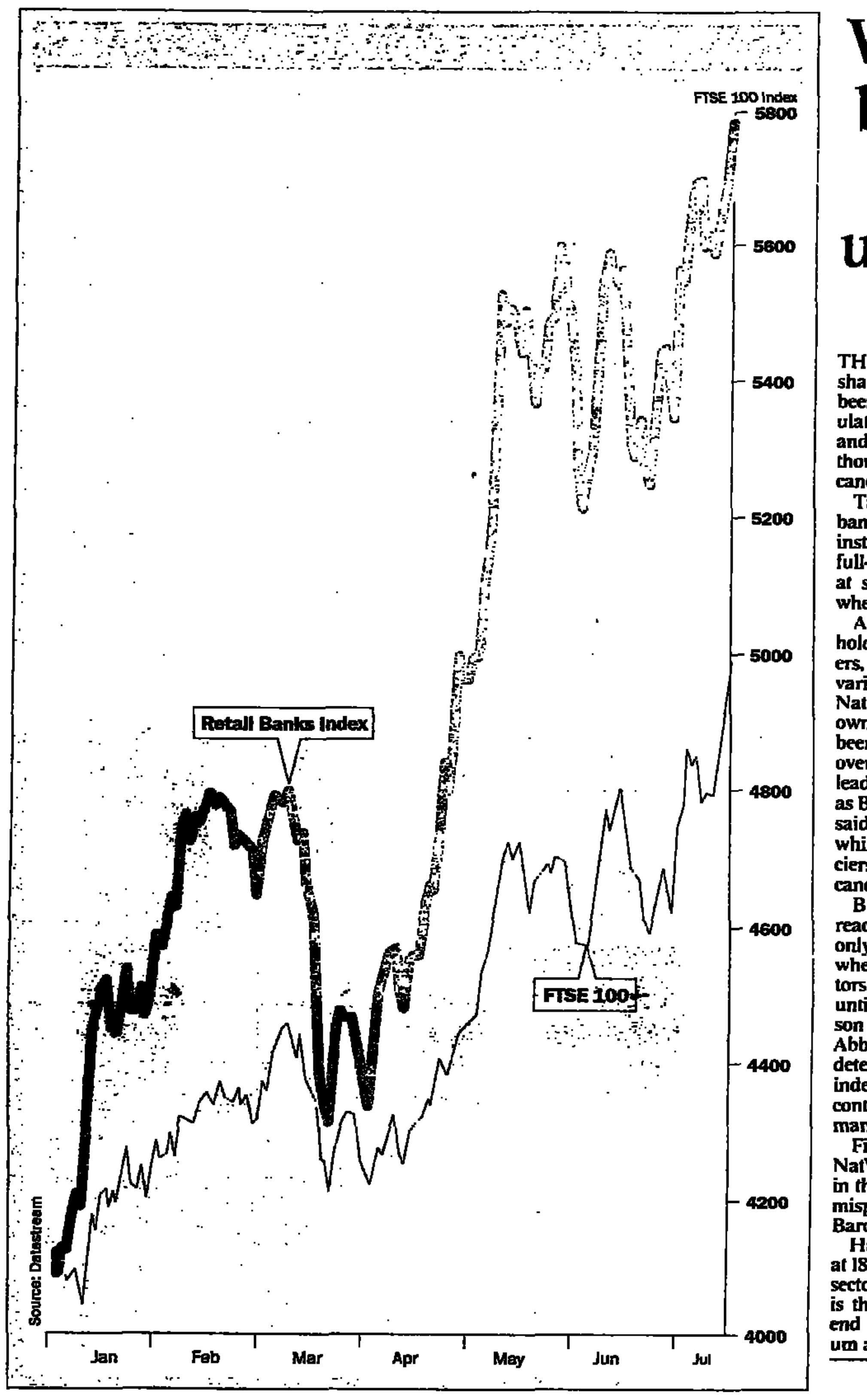
A high pound and potentially higher interest rates should not make for an ever higher stock market. And what about the £70 billion cost to UK companies of the change to the taxation of dividend credits for pension funds? The market seems to have shrugged that off. Apparently, fund managers who manage the money behind the market think it is too high, yet the FTSE keeps rising. The stock market appears to be living in a world of its own, powered by bid rumours and unrealistic expectations. Surely, there is a correction coming. But when? Commentary, page 27

Simon Briscoe, director of research at Nikko Europe, said the latest data supported growing evidence that the labour market is not strong and that inflationary pressures are easing. But Adam Cole, UK economist at James Capel, said that the rise in vacancies and a further large fall in unemployment still pointed towards a tightening labour market. The Bank of England has expressed concern over the inflationary impact of the strong labour market in recent months and the better than expected earnings figures may ease pressure for another interest rate rise next month.

The minutes for the June monetary policy committee meeting, the first since the Bank was granted operational independence in May, show the newly installed committee was unanimous in its decision to raise rates by a quarter point. The committee expressed concern over the high level of the pound but concluded domestic demand was sufficiently strong to warrant a further tightening in monetary policy.

Separate data published yesterday showed that Government borrowing increased unexpectedly in June. The public sector borrowing requirement increased to £4.75 billion in June compared with £3.73 billion in May and £3.77 billion in June last year. The running total for the financial year so far is £9.6 billion, before privatisation proceeds, compared with £11.3 billion this time last year. Economists said the Government was on course to meet its full-year PSBR forecast of £10.9 billion.

Government interest payments on gilts jumped sharply as payments are now concentrated in June and December, while VAT receipts fell in comparison with last year because of the introduction of a quarterly system of payments for large companies. But the Government has kept well within in its tough spending regime with total expenditure falling 1.3 per cent in the first three months.



Source: Datastream

Warring bankers drive up prices

BY JON ASHWORTH AND MARTIN WALLER

THE extraordinary rise in share prices this year has been fuelled by frenzied speculation of takeovers by banks and insurance companies, although a bid of any significance has yet to emerge.

Takeover paranoia among banks and other financial institutions has resulted in full-scale "war games" aimed at simulating what happens when a hostile bidder swoops.

Abbey National has been holding dry runs with advisers, amid speculation that various suitors, including NatWest Group and HSBC, owner of Midland Bank, have been casting the slide-rule over its books. Moreover, leading PR bid advisers such as Brunswick and Citigate are said to be on 24-hour alert, while some corporate financiers are reported to have cancelled summer holidays.

Bid speculation has reached such a pitch that the only question seems to be whether the expected predators will pounce now or wait until the interim results season in a couple of weeks time. Abbey National, which is determined to safeguard its independence, says it has contingency plans for all manner of developments.

Fingers continue to point at NatWest, seen as vulnerable in the wake of the derivatives mispricing losses, and at Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Halifax shares are trading at 18 times earnings, against a sector average of 12. The fear is that potential bidders will end up paying a huge premium at the top of the market.

BZW departure, page 26

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4964.2	(+64.9)
Yield	3.35%	
FTSE All share	2316.03	(+26.22)
Nikkei	20358.74	(+289.33)
New York:		
Dow Jones	8026.11	(+50.40)*
S&P Composite	934.77	(+9.01)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅝%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	101 27/32*	(101 1/32)
Yield	6.48%*	(6.55%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 15/16%	(6 13/16%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	114 7/16	(114⅛)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6745*	(1.6788)
London:		
$	1.6756	(1.6745)
DM	3.0116	(3.0145)
FFr	10.1720	(10.1800)
SFr	2.4847	(2.4733)
Yen	194.47	(193.39)
£ Index	105.2	(105.1)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7980*	(1.7935)
FFr	6.0690*	(6.0508)
SFr	1.4835*	(1.4735)
Yen	116.23*	(115.77)
$ Index	104.0	(103.8)

Tokyo close Yen 115.66

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Sep)	$18.40	($18.35)

GOLD

London close	$319.15	($319.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Departure

A senior BZW executive left the troubled investment bank to take the helm at Eagle Star, the insurer. The departure follows claims that uncertainty over the bank's future, as well as a move from the City of London to Canary Wharf, has prompted some analysts and traders to leave. **Page 26**

Opposition

Moves to overcome the opposition of LVMH to the merger of Guinness and GrandMet were in disarray after the UK companies gave short shrift to the latest peace overtures. **Page 27**

Brussels opposes Boeing merger

BY OLIVER AUGUST

THE clash over the $13.3 billion (about £7.9 billion) merger of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas came to a head last night when EU antitrust experts opposed the creation of the world's largest aerospace company.

The European Commission is now expected to block the merger by threatening the imposition of heavy fines after last-minute negotiations failed to yield sufficient concessions from Boeing. The merger is seen as a threat to Airbus, the European consortium that includes British Aerospace.

Governments in Bonn, Paris and Washington are supporting their respective aerospace industries and a trade war is looming. Jacques Chirac, the French president, said: "We strongly support the Commission ... [The merger] could be extremely dangerous for Europeans." The British Government has taken a back seat in the dispute.

Günter Rexrodt, the German economics minister, said that Boeing had offered to report regularly to the EU on any cross-subsidies from McDonnell-Douglas's military business to its own civilian operations but this, and other commitments, were not enough to win EU approval.

Al Gore, the US Vice-President, has given warning that the Clinton administration would take any appropriate action to prevent the Commission torpedoing the merger. The Commission is set to impose fines of up to 10 per cent of turnover on Boeing, and seize new Boeing planes delivered to Europe. The US Federal Trade Commission approved the merger without conditions on July 1.

CBI urges Blair to delay euro

LEADERS of the Confederation of British Industry will today tell Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, that CBI members want Britain to refrain from joining Europe's single currency in the early stages (Philip Bassett writes).

Sir Colin Marshall, the CBI president, and Adair Turner, director-general, will tell Mr Blair that although business is broadly in favour of a single currency, Britain must wait to see if monetary union is effective before taking part.

A member of the CBI's governing council said: "With sterling appreciating by 23 per cent over the past year, that's a very clear indication that now would not be the right time to enter. The exchange rate position is far too unstable to lock the pound into a single currency now."

BT pledges to proceed with MCI merger

BY ERIC REGULY

BRITISH TELECOM yesterday pledged to complete its £12 billion merger with MCI in the face of mounting losses in the American phone company's local business, but left open the door to renegotiate the price.

BT said that no decision to reduce the price would be taken until it had completed an extensive review, which is to begin immediately, of MCI's multibillion dollar push into the local market in the US.

The difficulties in penetrating this newly deregulated market triggered a surprise profits warning from MCI last week, putting pressure on BT to defend the acquisition and review the purchase price.

Sir Iain Vallance, the BT chairman who is to become co-chairman of the merged company, called Concert, said: "We will take time to look thoroughly to make sense of the US market. Only after we've done that would we consider renegotiations."

Alleged attempts by BT to seek the resignations of two MCI senior executives in the wake of the profits warning appear to have failed.

Gerald Taylor, MCI's chief executive and a non-executive director of BT, said that Tim Price, president, and Douglas Maine, chief financial officer, had his support and would not be leaving.

Mr Taylor said MCI had "absolutely" every intention of completing the merger on the terms agreed last November.

The commitment to go ahead came as shareholders attending BT's annual meeting, its first in Scotland and its last before the creation of Concert, accused BT of mismanagement for its apparent failure to monitor MCI's expansion into the local market.

Jon Meyer, from Loanhead, Scotland, one of 930 shareholders at the meeting, asked Sir Peter Bonfield, BT's chief executive, if he had been "suckered" by MCI. "Should we call for your resignation or a vote of confidence in your job?"

Sir Peter denied that he had become sloppy. "We never said this was going to be easy ... The US local market is at a different stage of development than previously envisaged."

Commentary, page 29

Bus chief guilty of £1m bribe

BY ADAM JONES

DAWSON WILLIAMS, the former chairman of British Bus, was found guilty yesterday of bribing a bank manager with £1 million when the privatised transport company hit financial difficulties.

Mr Williams, who received £9.4 million in 1994 when he sold part of his holding in British Bus, was convicted of conspiracy to corrupt, by a unanimous jury verdict at the Old Bailey in London.

Ian Harvey, the First National Bank of Boston executive who ran British Bus's account, was found guilty of the same charge, relating to a period between January 1992 and August 1994. The two men will be sentenced on September 5.

Mr Williams, 59, of Ringwood, Hampshire, bribed Mr Harvey, 40, of Little Hadham, Hertfordshire, after Robson Rhodes, British Bus's auditors, requested proof that the company could afford its debts before the 1992-93 accounts were signed off.

The company, which ran UK-wide bus services, had been unable to raise money by selling town centre bus stations because of the early-1990s property slump. Mr Harvey wrote letters pledging the bank's "open-ended" support without informing his head office. British Bus eventually traded out of its difficulties and the bank made a profit on the shares.

For that, Mr Harvey only received £600,000, which was paid after Mr Williams received the £9.4 million when two venture capitalists bought British Bus in mid-1994. The remainder was left offshore as part of a tax scheme. Mr Harvey spent £400,000 of the money on a house in Little Hadham.

The two men had been charged in July 1996 after an investigation by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) and the City of London Police. The SFO has applied for £599,999 to be confiscated from Mr Harvey. The pair may also have to pay costs of £86,000. Both are on bail, having had their passports confiscated.

British Bus is now owned by Cowie, which said that the court decision would have no effect on its operations.

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THIS EXAMPLE SHOWS THE MONTHLY REPAYMENTS OF CAPITAL AND INTEREST FOR A TYPICAL MORTGAGE [illegible]

Euromoney in £84m Disney deal

Euromoney Publications, the international business magazine group, has agreed to buy the *Institutional Investor* titles from The Walt Disney Company for $142 million (£84 million) — its largest ever acquisition.

Institutional Investor, which publishes 24 newsletters as well as its flagship magazine, last year returned profits of £4 million on sales of £44 million — a margin of 9 per cent against Euromoney's 24 per cent.

Euromoney said it would be looking at means of stripping costs from the magazine company, which employs 500 staff worldwide, but said it was too early to decide whether jobs will be lost. The shares were unchanged at £15.47½.

Software pact

Oxford Molecular, the drug design software company, has entered into a new collaboration with Glaxo Wellcome to improve DIVA, their jointly developed system for analysing chemical and biological data.

BZW executive quits to lead Eagle Star

By Adam Jones

ONE of the leading executives at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the troubled investment banking arm of Barclays, reasigned yesterday to take the helm at Eagle Star, the insurer.

The departure of Patrick O'Sullivan, 48, the chief operating officer, follows uncertainty over the bank's future, as well as a move from the City of London to Canary Wharf that has been unpopular with some staff. He is the latest in a flood of departures since Bill Harrison joined last year from Flemings to succeed David Bland, who died of a heart attack.

The market has been awash with rumours about the future of BZW. Among the options suggested have been a flotation of the business and a merger with NatWest Markets, the investment banking arm of NatWest Group.

NatWest Markets is also under a cloud, with Derek Wanless, NatWest's chief executive, temporarily in charge after the resignation of NatWest Markets' boss, Martin Owen, after its options losses earlier this year. NatWest said it would reveal its future plans for NatWest Markets on August 5 with its half-year figures.

The move also renewed expectations that BAT Industries, the owner of Eagle Star, is to embark on a significant restructuring of its financial services division, which could involve a £12 billion flotation of the business, which also includes Allied Dunbar, the life assurer.

There have been rumours of a merger between Eagle Star and Commercial Union's UK interests and of a bid for Norwich Union by BAT.

Eagle Star said yesterday that it was leaving its options open. However, Lord Cairns, BAT's chairman, strongly hinted at a demerger at BAT's annual shareholders' meeting in May.

Mr O'Sullivan joined the Barclays subsidiary in 1994 as head of bank finance. He previously worked for Arthur Andersen, Bank of America, Goldman Sachs and Financial Guaranty Insurance Company, a subsidiary of General Electric.

As chief operating officer, he chaired BZW's operating committee. He will join Eagle Star in September.

Sandy Leitch, chief executive of British American Financial Services (BAFS), said yesterday the appointment should not be taken as a sign that a flotation or merger, or both, is definitely planned.

Mr O'Sullivan commented: "Sandy's goals and ambitions for BAFS are very attractive. I'm more than delighted."

He said insurance was experiencing the same trends in areas such as globalisation and risk management as retail and investment banking.

Patrick O'Sullivan is the latest of many to leave BZW

BAe seeks unlimited right to continue arms sales

By Oliver August

BRITISH Aerospace held talks at the Foreign Office yesterday to lobby the Government against restricting arms exports to countries with doubtful human rights records.

Mike Turner, a BAe executive director, met Derek Fatchett, the minister responsible for Asia and the Middle East, to discuss new export licences. Labour has pledged to stop arms exports to regimes known for their unethical conduct. A review of the export policy is expected by the end of this month.

BAe is a major arms supplier to the Indonesian armed forces. Peace protesters have alleged that BAe's Hawk training aircraft have been used to attack the East Timorese population. BAe annual meetings have been distrupted by protesters for several years.

A BAe spokesman said: "Mike Turner went to the Foreign Office to discuss a number of topics. Export licences was one of them."

Civil servants at the Foreign Office have drawn up a list of measures that Robin Cook, Foreign Secretary, could implement to restrict arms exports. It is believed he could force BAe to cancel some contracts or prevent it from negotiating contract extensions.

Analysts believe that the policy review could pose a serious threat to BAe profits. Last month IBCA, the ratings agency, raised BAe's long-term rating, citing defence exports as a reason. IBCA said: "The defence operations .. are the all-important cash and profit generators of the group, representing 63 per cent of BAe's all-time high order book of £19 billion."

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "The meeting was held at British Aerospace's request. It was a two-way conversation but more BAe-to-minister than the other way around."

Difficult customer, page 29

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

MMC delays report on Freemans sale

SEARS and Littlewoods must wait an extra two months to find out whether the repeatedly delayed sale of Sears' Freemans catalogue business to the Liverpool-based retail-to-pools group can go ahead. A report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was scheduled for delivery to the DTI on Monday. The delay to September 22 means that Sears' long-suffering shareholders are unlikely to receive their 24p per share special dividend until next year. It had been expected in December. The news sent Sears' shares down 2½p to 62½p, not far above their five-year low of 58p in 1993.

The DTI said that the MMC had requested the extended deadline because of the complexity of the issues raised by the merger. Sears and Littlewoods, which have said they believe that the matter should not have needed a referral, remained confident yesterday that the deal would be allowed.

Wray buys pizza slice

NIGEL WRAY, the entrepreneur behind the Burford property group, is buying a slice of Domino's Pizza, the pizza delivery firm, for up to £2.75 million. Mr Wray, whose interests include Saracens Rugby Club and Nottingham Forest Football Club, is buying up to 20 per cent of Domino's Pizza Group, which holds the UK franchise for the US pizza company. The money will help to expand the company from its current total of 140 stores, paving the way for an eventual stock market flotation.

Allied Textile seeks deal

ALLIED TEXTILE remains on the lookout for acquisitions both at home and abroad but has yet to find exactly what it wants, the company said yesterday. It reported an 8.5 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £6.95 million for the six months to March 31. The advance was achieved in spite of the rise of sterling affecting sales abroad, which account for 53 per cent of the company's revenues. Earnings per share were 6.6p, up from 6.1p, and the interim dividend has been lifted from 2.6p to 2.75p.

Microgen at 2-year low

SHARES of Microgen Holdings fell to a two-year low as the struggling microfilm producer gave warning that the strong pound and difficult market conditions had wiped out any chances of growth this year. Pre-tax profits were £4.21 million (£4.87 million) at the half-way stage, it said, and would be "significantly" below the expected £9 million by the year end. Analysts wrote down forecasts to £7 million, as the shares fell 31p to 118½p. Earnings were 6.9p (8p) a share for the six months to April 30, but the interim dividend stays at 2.4p.

First Technology grows

FIRST Technology, the crash-test dummy and fuel valve company, beat City forecasts with pre-tax profits of £9.23 million (£7.27 million) in the year to April 30. Renault and Fiat, the main customers for its emergency fuel cut-off valve, sold thousands of new cars through government schemes, encouraging owners of ten-year-old cars to trade them in. The strength of sterling wiped £300,000 from profits, leaving earnings at 38.1p (30.1p) a share. A 6.6p final dividend, due October 13, makes the total 10.8p (8.5p).

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.38	2.20
Austria Sch	22.16	20.50
Belgium Fr	65.31	60.35
Canada $	2.426	2.238
Cyprus Cyp£	0.926	0.855
Denmark Kr	12.06	11.17
Finland Mkk	9.43	8.68
France Fr	10.63	9.85
Germany Dm	3.17	2.93
Greece Dr	499	460
Hong Kong $	13.77	12.57
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.17	1.08
Israel Shk	6.26	5.61
Italy Lira	3097	2860
Japan Yen	209.63	192.10
Malta	0.690	0.631
Netherlds Gld	3.579	3.284
New Zealand $	2.70	2.46
Norway Kr	13.11	12.17
Portugal Esc	316.03	294.00
S Africa Rd	8.35	7.39
Spain Pta	264.79	246.00
Sweden Kr	13.93	12.83
Switzerland Fr	2.64	2.42
Turkey Lira	268414	248536
USA $	1.781	1.638

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday

Bulmer to double marketing spend

By Dominic Walsh

HP BULMER, the UK's biggest cidermaker, with Strongbow, Woodpecker and White Lightning, is almost doubling its marketing spend to £8 million this year.

The move follows a rise of almost 10 per cent in full-year profits and is expected to wipe out any profits growth this financial year.

Bulmer's £8 million spend is similar to Matthew Clark's investment after its savaging by the alcopops sector. Their combined spend of more than £16 million compares to £6 million last year, £4.7 million of it Bulmer's.

John Rudgard, chief executive, said the main target would be the 18 to 24 age group, responsible for 70 per cent of cider consumption but has seen a slight decline in the past three years. In the year to April 25, Bulmer profits before tax and exceptionals were up 9.2 per cent, to £30.1 million, on turnover up 20 per cent at £310.5 million.

Bulmer lifted market share to 54.5 per cent, its highest for more than 30 years. A 9.62p final dividend, due September 15, makes 14.52p, up 10 per cent. Earnings per share before exceptionals rose to 36.19p.

Strong product demand lifts Pru

By Marianne Curphey, Insurance Correspondent

STRONG demand for life and pensions products in the UK helped to boost new business figures from Prudential.

Prudential yesterday reported growth of 23 per cent in single premium life, pension and investment products to £3.6 billion and growth of 20 per cent to £294 million in regular premium sales in the first six months of 1997.

The figures were higher than had been forecast.

But separate figures from Legal & General were slightly below market expectations. At L&G, new UK equivalent premium income rose 24 per cent to £175 million while worldwide new equivalent premium income was £215 million, an increase of 16 per cent on the comparable period last year.

In the UK, single premium sales by the Prudential grew 15 per cent to £1.8 billion and regular premiums increased 16 per cent to £182 million.

Sales of the Prudence Bond increased 47 per cent to £539 million. It is now Prudential UK's best selling product.

Tempus, page 28

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ESS ROUNDUP

C delays report
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Textile seeks deal

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ses
fit

BT phone home, say investors

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

So Sir Iain Vallance is pressing ahead with the MCI merger, though he might ask for a price cut. Alternatively, investors might requisition an EGM and propose the deal is scuppered unless the terms are changed. This might save BT the $150 million penalty that its management allowed MCI to insert into the agreement.

Sir Iain needs to deliver a good result from the MCI talks. MCI's "surprise" profits warning raised the question: how much did BT know and when did it know it? If BT was genuinely surprised last week that MCI's losses in penetrating the local phone market will double this year to $800 million, then its senior executives should be taken to task for sloppy management. If it was not surprised, then it should not have been so euphoric about the deal at April's extraordinary meeting, when it sought and obtained approval to proceed with the £12 billion takeover.

BT should have been well aware of MCI's difficulties in cracking the local market long before last week. BT has owned 20 per cent of MCI since 1993 and the top executives of both companies sit on each other's boards. Since last November, when BT agreed to buy MCI, this relationship has become even closer with the two hatching plans to integrate their operations.

Admittedly Clinton's 1996 Telecommunications Act has been an unmitigated disaster. The Act, promoted as the most wide ranging reform of the phone market since the Depression, was supposed to eliminate remaining trade barriers, allowing local, long distance and cable companies to compete in each other's markets. On paper, it was a great achievement; in practice, nothing changed. Local monopolies are alive and well and will do anything legal to keep it that way.

But the Act's shortcomings were suspected last year and apparent before April (not least to this column). BT either chose to ignore the warning signs or did not understand their significance. The most charitable reading possible is that BT took its eye off the ball.

BT says it has now passed the point of no return. It has no choice but to go ahead with the takeover, which limits its room for manoeuvre when renegotiating the price. Shareholders, who baled out in droves last week on the profits warning, have every right to be wary. How many more surprises are in store? Has BT, as one shareholder asked yesterday, been "suckered" by its friends at MCI?

BT's efforts to restore confidence did not succeed yesterday. It will now have to go out of its way to keep investors informed about the merger every step of the way. One more shock announcement could kill the deal.

An index in a world of its own

In case you have not been paying attention — here are the deals that are supposed to be happening in the financial services sector. The Pru is buying NatWest or maybe Abbey National, the Halifax or the Woolwich. HSBC is buying NatWest, Abbey National, Royal Bank of Scotland or the Halifax. Barclays is buying NatWest, and is also demerging BZW or else buying NatWest Markets and then demerging BZW. Halifax is buying Royal Bank of Scotland or Norwich Union, which in turn is about to be bought by BAT. Or else the Bank of Scotland is buying NatWest. For its part NatWest thought everything was too expensive last year, when it was still able to buy and the sector was 20 per cent cheaper.

As the FTSE 100 index powered towards 5,000 yesterday, the financial services sector led the way. The retail banks were up an average of 2.6 per cent — twice the rise of the FTSE, which the banks now dominate. This is not surprising. Real industry is suffering because of the strong pound. The retailers are enjoying the short term benefits of the building society windfalls. But the banks are being buoyed by technical factors and bid premiums.

If the market is right and there is about to be a massive shake-up in the retail financial services industry, this will create widespread job losses and add to the country's economic woes. And will it do much for the efficient provision of financial services? Is there a great volume of Abbey Life products actually sold through the Lloyds TSB network? And Lloyds is supposed to be the most efficient operator in the sector.

A high pound and potentially higher interest rates should not make for an ever higher stock market. And what about the £70 billion cost to UK companies of the change to the taxation of dividend credits for pension funds. The market seems to have shrugged that off. Apparently all the fund managers, who actually manage the money behind the market, think it is too high, yet the FTSE keeps on rising. The stock market appears to be living in a world of its own, powered by bid rumours and unrealistic expectations. Surely there is a correction coming. But when?

Time for glasnost at the Old Lady

Two months and two interest rate rises have passed since the Bank of England gained operational independence. But it was only yesterday, with the publication of the June 6 monetary policy committee minutes, that the outside world could see the new system in action. Gone are the sharp differences that marked the "Ken and Eddie" show in favour of a bland discussion of the state of the economy, with the committee speaking at all times in a single voice.

There is something slightly unreal about these minutes. They indicate about as much dissent as the average Politburo meeting, despite the Bank admitting a serious "policy dilemma" because of the high level of the pound. It is hard to believe that Eddie George and Professor Willem Buiter, who expressed concern about the balance of the economy just before joining the committee, are united over this problem. But judging from these minutes, the Bank seems to want to stick to its policy of shutting its eyes and hoping the problem will go away. It hasn't.

Sterling has risen a further 8 per cent against the mark since this meeting. Two fundamental causes of the appreciation — EMU turmoil and the large interest rate differential between the UK and other major economies — also suggest the pound is set to stay strong well into next year. Time for glasnost on Threadneedle Street.

Oh no Arnault

NO ONE seriously believes that Burger King and Guinness brewing will be part of GMG Brands in a decade's time. So Bernard Arnault's plan to throw the drinks part of his LVMH into melting pot makes sense. What is currently holding up the resolution of this issue is the price that M Arnault wants for including Moët Hennessy in the equation and the determination of George Bull and Tony Greener to present it as their deal.

Forbes in £84m cash bid for UK insurer

By Jon Ashworth

THE Forbes Group, South Africa's biggest insurance group, is making an agreed £84 million offer for Nelson Hurst, the international insurance broker based in London.

The deal provides Forbes with a springboard for overseas expansion. Nelson Hurst has an extensive network in Asia and Latin America. The cash offer vales each Nelson Hurst at 185p, a premium of 43 per cent to the closing middle market price of 129½p on Tuesday.

The companies already have a close trading relationship and share seats on each other's boards. Paul Heinamann, group managing director of Forbes, said that the link provided an entrée to the emerging markets in Latin America and Asia where the rise of an affluent middle class has sparked growing demand for endowments and other financial assurance products.

Forbes owns 9.94 per cent of Nelson Hurst shares, and has irrevocable undertakings over a further 11.17 per cent of the shares. If the bid succeeds, Nelson Hurst does not intend to pay an interim dividend in the six months to end-June. David Woodward and John Percy-Davis will continue in their current roles as chairman and chief executive of Nelson Hurst for at least the next three years.

Arnault plan for single drinks giant dismissed

By Dominic Walsh

MOVES to overcome the opposition of Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH, to the proposed £24 billion merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan were in disarray last night after the UK companies gave short shrift to his latest overtures.

LVMH, which is the largest shareholder in both British companies, yesterday issued a formal proposal that its own Moët Hennessy drinks business be combined with those of GrandMet and Guinness to create a single drinks giant to be listed in London and Paris.

However, George Bull, chairman of GrandMet, and Tony Greener, his Guinness counterpart, dismissed the plan as "a complicated and costly break-up of GrandMet and Guinness in order to leverage LVMH into a dominant position in what would already be the world's leading spirits and wine company".

While agreeing to a full analysis of the scheme, they dismissed it as giving M Arnault "back-door control without paying a premium". They added: "It is hard to see how this would be in the interests of our other shareholders."

M Arnault's proposal envisages the creation of three further separately quoted companies to hold Guinness and GrandMet's other businesses: Pillsbury food, Burger King and Guinness Brewing.

Under the suggested demerger, LVMH would exchange its 66 per cent shareholding in Moët Hennessy, together with its 14.2 per cent stake in Guinness and 6.4 per cent of GrandMet, for a holding of about 35 per cent in the new quoted drinks company. In addition, shareholders would receive the same 60p-a-share payout promised in the proposed merger of Guinness and GrandMet into GMG Brands.

However, no reference was made to the alternative option discussed on Tuesday that Moët Hennessy could be split up, with LVMH retaining Moët champagne and GMG acquiring Hennessy.

Analysts admitted there was some merit in having demerged companies with a sharper focus, but questioned the price that Mr Arnault was demanding. A spokesman for GMG said the details would be examined carefully over the next few days and a formal response drawn up, probably next week. He admitted it was difficult to see a resolution, but added: "Things haven't broken down completely."

A source close to M Arnault described the GMG response as "not very constructive".

Commentary, this page

ROBIN MAYES

Peter Williams, left, chief executive of David S Smith, and David Buttfield saw pre-tax profits fall to £96 million

Paper group warns of painful cuts

By Fraser Nelson

DAVID S SMITH, the paper, packaging and office supplies group, gave warning it will suffer a "painful" process of cost reduction if the pound remains at its current highs.

The company, which generates a third of its business from overseas, said it is relying on a recovery in the French and German economies to return to growth next year. Pre-tax profits fell 23 per cent to £96 million in the year to May 3, on sales that eased 4.5 per cent to £1.18 billion. David Buttfield, finance director, said exchange rates had effectively made the company's paper 25 per cent more expensive in key overseas markets.

"All it would take is a 3 per cent recovery in the European markets for the sentiment to change," he said.

Earnings fell to 23.1p (30.3p) a share, after an increased dividend of 8p. A final 7.5p is due on October 1.

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Heavy fall in Medeva shares

SHARES in Medeva, the pharmaceuticals company, fell heavily yesterday as it revealed a collapse in sales of Ionamin, the slimming drug previously promoted as one of its most promising new products (Paul Durman writes).

First-half sales of Ionamin dropped to £7 million, a third of the level achieved in the second-half of last year. Medeva blamed £3 million of the fall on distributors running down excess stocks. However, Ionamin sales have also been hit by health fears.

Medeva accepts that "a recovery in sales in the short term seems unlikely".

The shares fell 34½p to a low this year of 222p, cutting £123 million from the company's stock market value. This was in spite of a 35 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £45.6 million, on sales 23 per cent ahead at £159 million.

The company will pay its interim dividend, increased by 15 per cent to 1.9p, as a foreign income dividend.

Tempus, page 28

Petroleum syndicate seeks £167m

By Carl Mortished

BRITISH-BORNEO Petroleum Syndicate is raising £167 million from its shareholders to help to fund a £500 million exploration and development programme in the Gulf of Mexico to extend over the next three to four years.

The 2-for-9 rights issue priced at £12 per share comes after a £54 million cash call early last year.

British-Borneo yesterday announced an asset swap with Conoco. The UK company is acquiring a half share in three Gulf of Mexico blocks that contain the King Kong gasfield in exchange for exploration acreage and some cash. The total value of the exploration acreage and cash is less than 5 per cent of British-Borneo's net assets, worth between £7 million and £8 million.

British-Borneo shares fell 50p to £13.62 and is forecasting a dividend for the year of 8.25p.

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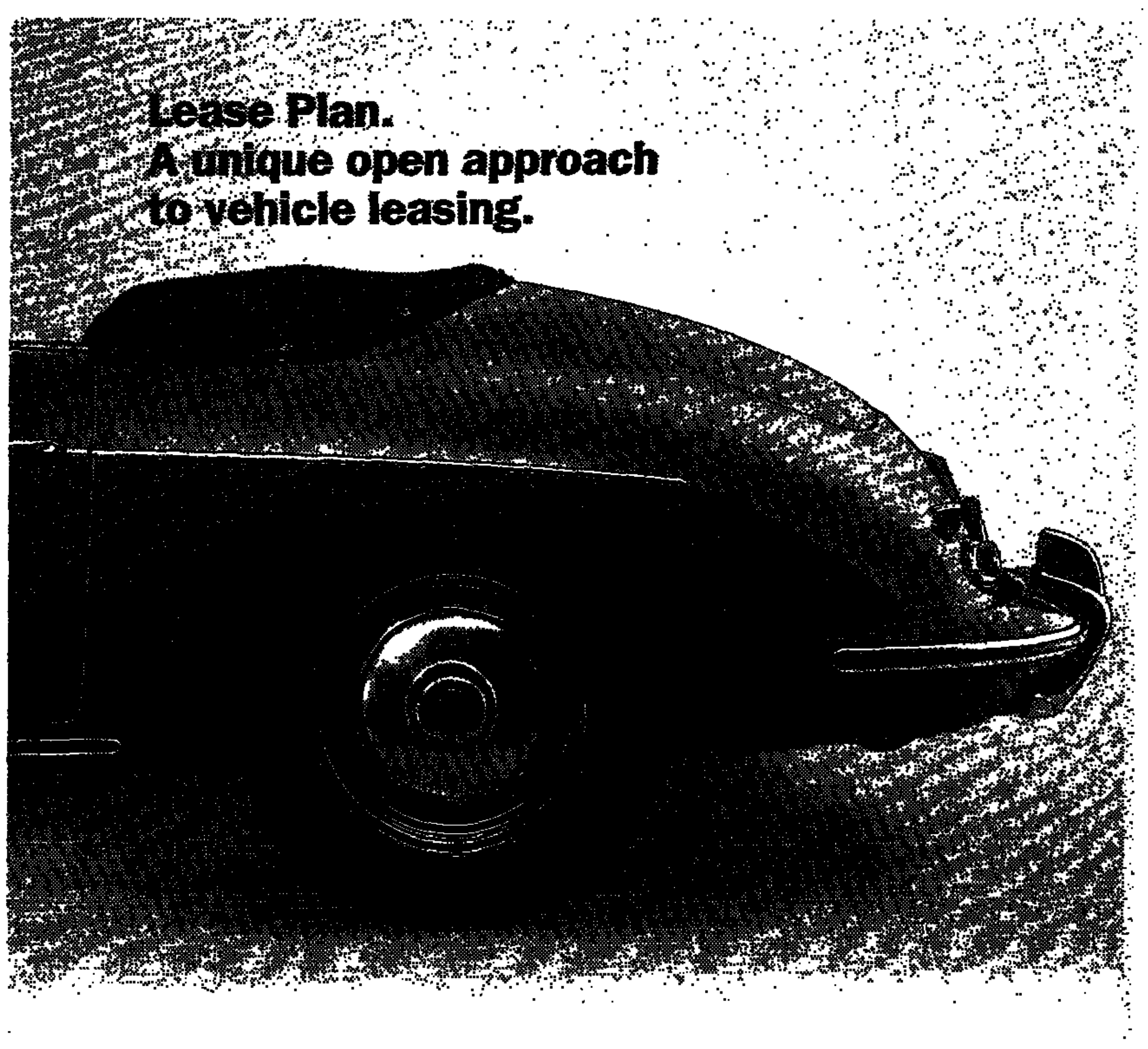

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Send this information request to: Lease Plan, Thames Side, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1TY

Please send me further details of Lease Plan's unique vehicle leasing and fleet management service.

Title______ Surname______________ Other names______________
(Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other)
Position______________ Company Name______________
Address______________
______________ Postcode______________
Tel. No.______________ Fleet Size______________ Method of Acquisition______________

Lease Plan
A fair deal in an unfair world

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

To the Clerk to the Licensing Justices for the Licensing District of South West Surrey.
To the Chief Officer of Police for the Police area of the said District.
To The Proper Officer of Guildford Borough Council
To The Proper Officer of Worplesdon Parish Council
To The Fire Authority Surrey County Council
and to all whom it may concern.

Take notice that we John Geoffrey Riddle of The Oaks Coombe Lane, Worplesdon, Surrey and Laura Ann Tudor of 23 Baird Drive, Wood St. Village, Guildford, Surrey and Jack Richard Michael Fenley-Martin of 50 Sparrow Close, [illegible], Huntingdon, Cambs. having for the last six months carried on the trade or calling respectively of College Principal, Catering Manager and Golf Club Secretary intend to apply at the Licensing Sessions to be held at Guildford Magistrates Court, Mary Road, Guildford, Surrey on 1st August 1997 for the grant to me of a New Justices' Licence authorising me to sell by retail intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption either on or off the premises situate at Coombe Lane, Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey, and to be known by the sign of Merrist Wood Golf Club, of which premises Merrist Wood College of Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey is the owner and a plan of which premises has been deposited with the Clerk to the Licensing Justices together with this notice.

Dated the 7th day of July 1997
Dollman & Pritchard
8 The Square, Caterham
Surrey, CR3 6XS
Authorised Agent on behalf of the Applicant.

Notice to Creditors of Intention to Declare Dividend
In the Matter of Oakeley Vaughan & Company Limited
and
In the Matter of the Insolvency Act 1986

A dividend is intended to be declared in the above matter. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts, writing to me for a claim form at BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA. Any creditor who does not submit their claim by 29 August 1997, will be excluded from this dividend.

No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

Dated 9 July 1997
R Hocking
Liquidator

BUXTON ASBESTOS & REMOVAL SERVICES LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Thursday 24th July 1997 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Mr Stephen Lord of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.

DATED THIS 14TH DAY OF JULY 1997
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
I C SARGEANT DIRECTOR

Dayville Limited
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at 84 Grosvenor Street London W1X 9DF on 24 July 1997 at 2.00pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of their debt to the offices of Buckler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF not later than 12 noon on 23 July 1997. For the purposes of voting, a secured creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed. Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at 84 Grosvenor Street, London between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above. Resolutions to be taken at the meeting may include a resolution specifying the terms on which the liquidator is to be remunerated, and the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.

By Order of the Board
Harold L Dalvis Director

Insolvency Act 1986
HIGHSPEED EURO LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above named company will be held at Wyngood House, 1206 Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham on 18th July 1997 at 10.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986. A form of proxy must be duly completed and lodged together with a written statement of claim at Meedway House, 1a Salisbury Road, Leicester, LE1 7QW not later than 12.00 o'clock noon on 17th July 1997 if creditors wish to vote at the meeting. Notice is also given that Secured Creditors (unless they surrender their security) must give particulars of their security, the date when it was given and its value if they wish to vote at the meeting. Creditors requiring further information may apply to J P W Harlow BSc MIPA or K Mistry BSc ACA at HKM Harlow Khandhia Mistry, Meedway House, 1a Salisbury Road, Leicester LE1 7QW.

Dated: 4th July 1997
By Order of the Board of Directors
Mrs Harbinder Kaur Director

THE INSOLVENCY ACT, 1986
IN BANKRUPTCY
IN THE SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY COURT No. 67 of 1997
RE: MICHAEL ARTHUR BUNCOMBE

On 10 July 1997 the above-named Court amended the title of the above proceedings to:- Michael Arthur Buncombe, C/o 17, Haydock Close, Calmore, Totton, Hants, SO4 3SD, lately trading as a marketing consultant as "MAB" Group, from Unit 1, Springmeadow Business Centre, Highfield Lane, Crucies Hill, and previously from 7, The Wharf, Mill Lane, Taplow, both in Berkshire and residing and trading from "Summerhouse" Bray Road, Maidenhead. Unemployed. The proceedings were previously advertised on 14 April 1997 under the description:- MICHAEL ARTHUR BUNCOMBE occupation unknown of 17 Haydock Close, Calmore, Totton, Hampshire lately trading at Unit 1 Spring Meadow Business Centre Highfield Lane Crucies Hill Berkshire RG10 8PU as a marketing service as the M A B Group lately of 7 The Wharf Mill Lane Taplow Berkshire SL6 0AD

Date 10 July 1997
Signed
KRJ Mace
Official Receiver
Western Range
82-86 London Road
Southampton
SO15 2SH

IN THE NEWPORT (I.O.W.) COUNTY COURT CASE NO. N1750985
To: Lionel Reuben Rodgers, address unknown

Take notice that an action has been commenced against you in the above court by TSB Bank Plc c/o Adams and Remers, Trinity House, School Hill, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 2NN for possession and declarations in respect of a property known as Sylvan Sous, Hunts Road, St Lawrence Ventnor, Isle of Wight and that an Order has been made that the publication of a notice of that action in a newspaper in the United Kingdom and in a newspaper in Israel shall be deemed to be good sufficient service of the proceedings on you.

The action will be heard at Newport (I.O.W.) County Court at 1 Quay Street, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5YT on 12 August 1997 at 10am, on which day you are to appear, and if you do not appear either in person or by your solicitor at the time and place abovementioned, such order will be made as the court thinks just.

Copies of the summons and other relevant documents may be obtained from the Chief Clerk at the County Court of the above address or from the solicitors mentioned below.

Dated 14 July 1997
Adams and Remers
Trinity House, School Hill
Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2NN
Ref: 60/TS8001/168

No. 002860 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER of HIS GROUP PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY
- and -
IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 9th day of July 1997 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £58,087,000 from £73,296,085 to £15,209,085 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 10th day of July 1997

Dated the 15th day of July 1997.
THEODORE GODDARD
150 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4EJ
Tel: 0171 606 8855
Solicitors for the above-named Company
Ref: 573/153.1145

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

BALL, REGINALD WILLIAM ALBERT of 8 [illegible] Row Parlaunt Road Langley Slough Berkshire, Estate Agent and Surveyor, died on 28th June 1997, particulars to ADRIAN AUBREY MARKS & DAVID FREEDMAN, Executors, c/o Samuels Marks Freedman & [illegible], 37 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4AR before 27th September 1997

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION NOTICE
Charity: South Asian Development Charitable Trust
Scheme: For the amendment of trust deed
Reference: TF 1,005,384/37346 DC(Lds)

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at the office of Cooke Matheson at 8 Gray's Inn Square London WC1R 5JQ or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Charity Commission, St Alban's House 57/60 Haymarket London SW1Y 4QX quoting the above reference. Comments or representations should be made either to Cooke Matheson or to the Charity Commission within one month from today's date.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION
PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171 680 6878
FAX: 0171 481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

London lifted to record as Dow sails past 8,000

LONDON yesterday came within a whisker of breaching the 5,000 level for the first time and closed at a high for the third consecutive day.

The record followed another opening surge on Wall Street, which carried the Dow Jones industrial average above the 8,000 level for the first time. The FTSE 100 index responded quickly, surging almost 100 points to touch an all-time high of 4,991.8. It ended 64.9 ahead, at a closing high of 4,964.2. By contrast, the FTSE 350 ended just 28.8 up at 2,373.7. Other European markets were also dragged higher by Wall Street.

Most of the gains among leading shares were led by the futures market, with the September series of the FTSE 100 trading at a sizeable premium to the cash market, closing at 5,018. Turnover in the cash market was low relative to the rise in the index, with a billion shares traded. Dealers say this indicates that the bull market has yet to filter through to the second and third liners.

The weight of institutional money building up outside the market has made market-makers cautious. They have been caught out too many times to try to call prices lower. Merrill Lynch, the US securities house, which attempted to call the top of the market on Monday has seen the index soar a further 164.7 (3.4 per cent) since then. Its monthly Gallup poll of fund managers indicated that funds were now switching out of equities and into gilts, but there seems to be few signs of blue chips losing their momentum.

Yesterday's gains were underpinned by the surprise drop in average earnings and the reduction in the dole queue to its lowest level for seven years.

Stock shortages among the leaders resulted in double digit gains. **ICI** continued to reflect on this week's disposal of its bulk chemical business with a rise of 22p at 910p. There were also gains for **BOC Group** 32p to £10.94½, **GKN** 20p to £10.26½, **Zeneca** 67p to £22.65, **Railtrack** 22½p to 753½p, and **Next** 27p to 773p.

The market was underpinned by another searing performance from the banks, where stock shortages are becoming acute before the interim dividend reporting season. Leading the way again was **HSBC**, up 65p at £21.51, after strong markets overnight in the Far East and talk of a possible share split. Takeover favourite **Abbey National** put on 23p at 879½p. **Barclays** rose 30p at £12.82½, **Lloyds TSB** 19p at 716½p, **NatWest** 21p at 874p, and **Standard Chartered** 38p at £10.38½. Among the newcomers, **Woolwich** firmed 1½p to 300½p, and **Halifax** 3½p to 760p.

The water companies were also in demand, with **Thames** up 22½p at 794p, **South West** 22½p at 821½p, and **United Utilities** 19p at 774p. **PowerGen** rose 18½p to 797p and **Scottish Power** 20p to 467p as market-makers attempted to unwind positions built up after the abolition of tax credit on Advance Corporation Tax in the Budget.

The City was unconvinced by re-assurances from **BT** to shareholders that it may be possible to re-negotiate the terms of the proposed £21 billion merger with MCI. It follows last week's profits warning from the American telecom company, which maintains that BT was aware of the situation. BT closed 7p lower at 445½p.

There was a lukewarm response to results from **Medeva**, down 34½p at 222p, after reporting that sales of two of its drugs, Ionamin and Methylphenidate, were disappointing. Société Générale Strauss Turnbull and Credit Lyonais Laing are reckoned to have both cut their forecast for the full year by £10 million to around £50 million.

A warning about significant first-half losses left **Plasmon** nursing a 86½p loss, to 92½p.

The strong pound is causing all sorts of problems for **Microgen Holdings**, where the price dropped 31p to 118½p. The computer outsourcing group says this, combined with rationalisation costs, would leave full-year pre-tax profits well below expectations.

Johnson Matthey stood out, with a jump of 22½p to 556p after some bullish comments to shareholders at the annual meeting about current trading. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, remains bullish of the stock.

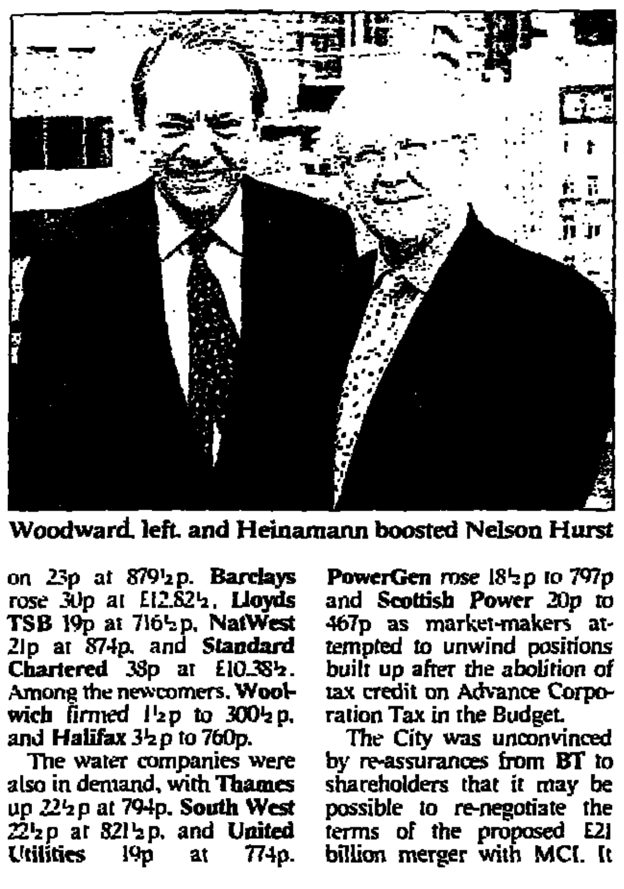
News of a bid approach hoisted **Nelson Hurst**, where David Woodward is chairman, 50p to 179½p. Forbes, the South African risk management group of which Paul Heinamann is chief executive, is making an agreed bid of 185p a share, valuing the insurance broker at £84 million.

☐ **GILT EDGED:** Prices rallied on the back of the better than expected average earnings numbers with prices climbing by almost £½ among longer dated issues. Index-linked issues also had a better day reflecting those heady gains on the equity market.

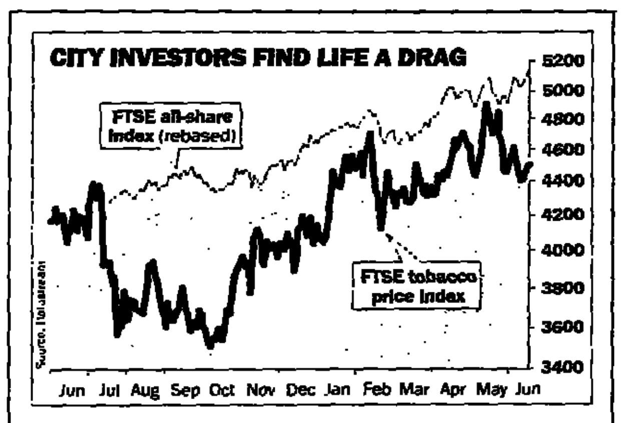
In the futures pit, the September series of the Long Gilt rose £⅝ to £114⁷⁄₁₆ as a total of 67,000 contracts were completed.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on £⁷⁄₁₆ at £109⅞, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £³⁄₃₂ better at £102¹⁷⁄₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** The Dow industrial average made a mighty stride past the record 8,000 level in early trading, while technology stocks roared to fresh highs. At midday, the Dow was up 42 points at 8,019.



Woodward, left, and Heinamann boosted Nelson Hurst



THE tobacco companies were left behind in yesterday's rush to reach the 5,000 level. In fact, they have consistently underperformed the market with little prospect of a recovery in the medium term. BAT Industries finished ½p shy at 549½p, with Imperial Tobacco just 5p better at 368½p, while Gallaher was unmoved at 261½p.

The latter has failed to live up to expectations since coming to market last month at 290p.

It seems cigarette smoking is to be discouraged by the Labour Government, as witnessed by the move to raise the minimum age limit. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, says this sort of view has dampened sentiment and overshadowed the benefits for the likes of Imps and Gallahers. Other domestic earners have been enjoying support as investors try to avoid the impact of a strong pound on profitability among the overseas earners. Hoare remains a buyer of Imperial but is less enthusiastic about Gallaher, where there is the possibility of further downside.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	8026.11 (+50.40)
S&P Composite	934.77 (+9.01)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	20358.74 (+289.33)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	15446.02 (-41.22)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	965.25 (+16.09)

Sydney:

AO	2646.40 (+8.80)

Frankfurt:

DAX	4201.24 (+80.11)

Singapore:

Straits	1917.89 (-19.20)

Brussels:

General	14192.90 (+148.74)

Paris:

CAC-40	2988.01 (+37.31)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	1207.60 (+14.90)

London:

FT 30	3128.1 (+29.8)
FTSE 100	4964.2 (+64.9)
FTSE 250	4487.5 (+36.0)
FTSE 350	2373.7 (+28.8)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2716.04 (+31.01)
FTSE All-Share	2316.03 (+26.22)
FTSE Non Financials	2323.05 (+20.02)
FTSE Fixed Interest	124.88 (+0.1)
FTSE Govt Secs	96.88 (+0.27)
Bargains	61416
SEAQ Volume	1058.2m
US$	1.6758 (+0.0015)
German Mark	3.0124 (-0.0017)
Exchange Index	105.2 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.5159
£:SDR	1.2219
RPI	157.5 Jun (2.9%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	156.7 Jun (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AIT	150½	...
Ashtenne	135½	+ 5
Cammell Laird	110	- 2½
Delcam	267½	...
European Mng Fin	25	...
Galen Holdings	197½	- 4½
Grosmont Hldgs	3	...
Grosmont Hldgs Wrts	1	...
Hitachi Credit (UK)	147½	+ 3
Primesight	130½	...
Reabourne Merlin	109	...
Royalblue Group	208½	...
SBS Group	109½	...
SGB Group	156	...
Woolwich	300½	+ 1½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Dragon Oil n/p (2)	¼	...
HIT Enter n/p (270)	70	...
Mackie Intl n/p (20)	7½	...
MWB Group n/p (175)	½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Graystone	79½p (+24p)
Cohen (A)	350p (+45p)
Helphire Gp	192½p (+15p)
MFI	145½p (+9½)
Croda	286½p (+15½p)
Liberty Intl	527½p (+25p)
Smith WH	381p (+17p)
Druck	240p (+10p)
Austin Reed	220½p (+9p)
REXAM	237p (+9½p)
Regent Inns	275½p (+11p)
Allied Irish	525p (+20½p)
TI	511p (+18½p)
Hamleys	277½p (+10p)
Next	773p (+27p)
Innovative Tech	295p (+10p)
Bodycote	881½p (+29p)
Lloyds TSB	716½p (+19p)
Abbey National	879½p (+23p)
Shell	435p (+11p)
Lex Service	392½p (+10p)
ICI	910p (+22p)
McKechnie	382½p (+14p)
FALLS:	
Microgen	118½p (-31p)
Medeva	222p (-34½p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

A personal problem

INSURANCE barons used to drool with excitement about the opportunities that would follow a state withdrawal from pension provision. It was enough to help them forget the awful mess caused by their sharp sales staff in the 1980s. As the prospect looms larger the premium rating of quoted life insurers grows but investors should treat a personal pensions boom with scepticism.

Insurers are ill-equipped to deal with a mass market product. They stand to gain little profit and at worst could end up fighting a price war, selling low-margin products. New business figures released yesterday from insurers tell the true story about personal pensions. Premium revenues grew sharply in the last two quarters — boosted by consumer confidence — but personal pensions still account for a tiny proportion of the life and pensions market. The Pru's new business from personal pensions was about £130 million out of some £2 billion of new life and pensions business in the UK.

The question is whether life insurers stand to gain from a mass-market pension product that would necessarily be aimed at the less well-off. Those insurers, such as Britannic, which sell financial products to low income groups have suffered from the extra cost of training staff to sell essentially lower-margin products. Simplified pension products — such as funds linked to index trackers — might lead to lower costs but, here again, companies like the Pru will lose out. Selling the alleged skills of their fund managers is how insurers justify their high fees. Take that away and you are left with sales and marketing, a business that insurers have never understood.

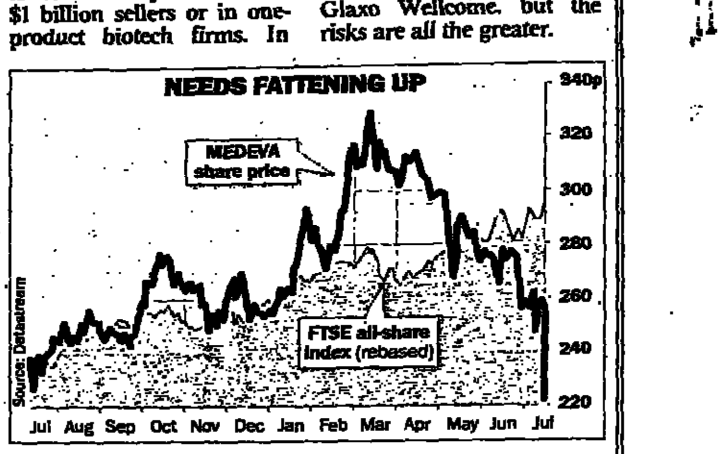
Medeva

IT IS hard to share Bill Bogie's relentless optimism about Medeva when the company's most exciting product has turned into a no-hoper. Ionamin, acquired only last year and scarcely a blockbuster among slimming drugs, has been dealt a body blow: the so-called fen-phen treatment seems to rot heart valves, according to the latest study.

That leaves Medeva once again pondering the question as to which drug is to replace methylphenidate? Medeva will soon begin to lose sales of the drug — which treats hyperactivity in children — to new rivals.

A quota system should ensure an orderly market and limit price, but Medeva's most profitable product is about to go ex-growth. Meanwhile, investors will be unenthused by the bladder cancer drug it is licensing from a US company for $8 million. The initial market in the US is at most 3,000 patients a year.

Such products can be profitable, but the City is happier buying shares in the pharmaceutical majors with their $1 billion sellers or in one-product biotech firms. In spite of the worries, yesterday's share price fall looks overdone. Even after the Ionamin setback, Medeva should still make £110 million this year, and it could soon have good news on Hepagene, its hepatitis B drug. Medeva looks cheap compared with Zeneca and Glaxo Wellcome, but the risks are all the greater.



British-Borneo

AN IMPRESSIVE name but King Kong is a remarkably small deal: the gasfield is being acquired for about £7 million and will do little to boost British-Borneo's net asset value. That begs the question why the oil explorer is raising £167 million and most of the answer relates to its share price.

Issuing stock at £12 when the asset value, including exploration potential, is more like £8 is a no-risk financing option for the company and British Borneo has big ambitions to continue to grow its Gulf of Mexico portfolio. The company has trump cards in negotiating deals in this hot oil province: it owns the rights to some deep water production technology with term contracts over two drilling rigs, a facility in short supply. It also has some 70 exploration leases in the Gulf of Mexico and relationships with Shell and BP, two major players.

British Borneo's cash call is pure opportunism; the company is in a hurry and wants to acquire more acreage in order to increase its chances of success in a high risk exploration play. A succession of unsuccessful wells have increased pressure on the company to justify the huge goodwill premiumbuilt into the share price. Over the next few months British Borneo will be drilling its first exploration well at the Kilmarnock prospect in the Gulf. A failure there will pound the share price. No wonder the company is asking for cash in advance.

David S Smith

TO David S Smith, the world could not look much worse. Faced with a soaring pound, overcapacity in its core UK market and rock-bottom paper prices, the packaging and paper group is drifting in the doldrums.

Smith's share price reflects these misfortunes. From 325p last year, the shares are now wallowing at 185p and a forward earnings multiple of 12; far adrift from rival Jefferson Smurfit on 17 times and US competitors at 19 times.

Why has the brunt of the City's displeasure been taken out on Smith? The management cannot take all the blame; they have used the discipline of a stronger pound to create a much leaner paper machine with margins sharply ahead over the last three years.

While hopes of a recovery are still the object of scorn in London, more optimism is found among US investors where there is already talk of a third-quarter recovery in paper prices. Operationally, Smith is a sound business with a strong balances sheet and there is no reason why it should not benefit when recovery arrives. On their current valuation, and at a three-yer low, the shares are looking cheap.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Jul	[illegible]	Sep	1149-1140
Sep	[illegible]	Dec	1155-1150
Dec	[illegible]	Mar	1166-1162
Mar	[illegible]	May	1175-1174
May	[illegible]		
Jul	1125-1122		Volume [illegible]

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	[illegible]	Mar	1590-1525
Sep	[illegible]	May	unq
Nov	[illegible]	Jul	[illegible]
Jan	unq		Volume 5232

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	[illegible]
Spot [illegible]		May	[illegible]
Aug	[illegible]	Aug	[illegible]
Oct	[illegible]	Oct	[illegible]
Dec	[illegible]		Volume 3775

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on July 15

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
[illegible]	[illegible]	105.81	97.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	-13.55	-2.49
Eng/Wales	[illegible]	105.71	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	-13.96	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	+21.9	[illegible]
Scotland	[illegible]	106.47	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	-11.46	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	+20.6	[illegible]

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.55	+0.40
Brent 15 day (Aug)	18.40	+0.30
Brent 15 day (Sep)	18.40	+0.30
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	19.70	+0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	19.90	+0.40

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	192 (+3)	194 (+4)
Gasoil EEC	165 (+2)	166 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	95 (+2)	96 (+1)
Naphtha	176 (+2)	177 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	163.50-63.75	Nov	169.50-69.75
Sep	165.50-65.75	Dec	171.00-71.50
Oct	167.75-68.00		Vol: 11752

BRENT (6.00pm)

Aug	18.37-19.41	Nov	18.65-18.67
Sep	18.48-18.50	Dec	18.69 SLR
Oct	18.57-18.59		Vol: 73406

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	81.05	Sep	76.25
Nov	83.05	Nov	78.75
Jan	85.20	Jan	80.35
Mar	87.20	Mar	82.50
May	89.20	May	83.75
Volume: 176		Volume: 24	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	49.0
Mar		69.0
Apr	69.0	77.0
		Volume: 146

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Aug 61.75-62.25

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jul 97	1350	1335	1350
Aug 97	1305	1290	1305
Sep 97	1325	1290	1325
Oct 97	1430	1425	1430
Vol: 174 lots		Open Interest: 3412	

Index 1360 (+[illegible])

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2454.0-2455.0	3mth: 2263.0-2264.0	Vol: 326645
Lead ($/tonne)	[illegible]	631.5-632.0	440225
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1441.0-1442.0	1490.0-1491.0	106605
Tin ($/tonne)	5404.0-5405.0	5455.0-5460.0	25025
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1572.0-1573.0	1590.0-1590.5	247975
Nickel ($/tonne)	6705.0-6710.0	6810.0-6815.0	147006

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FTSE INDEX

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 179493	Sep 97 Dec 97	114-06	114-19	113-31	114-14 114-02	67007 0
German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest: 299121	Sep 97 Dec 97	102.49 101.45	102.62 101.59	102.33 101.48	102.43 101.53	164011 1466
Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Previous open interest: [illegible]	Sep 97 Dec 97	135.62 107.67	135.92 107.90	135.38 107.67	135.61 107.73	40133 222
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 97 Dec 97	124.93 124.38	125.06 124.38	124.88 124.30	124.94 124.33	2137 255
Three Mth Sterling Previous open interest: 593421	Sep 97 Dec 97 Mar 98	92.83 92.60 92.51	92.85 92.66 92.57	92.82 92.59 92.49	92.84 92.64 92.55	11059 19993 17159
Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest: 1514154	Sep 97 Dec 97	96.77 96.63	96.79 96.66	96.76 96.62	96.78 96.64	23445 28073
Three Mth Eurolira Previous open interest: [illegible]	Sep 97 Dec 97	93.30 93.71	93.36 93.72	93.30 93.66	93.32 93.69	12734 11257
Three Mth Euroyen	Dec 97 Mar 98				99.19 99.94	0 0
Three Mth Euroswiss Previous open interest: 126477	Sep 97 Dec 97	98.55 98.40	98.55 98.42	98.45 98.31	98.47 98.33	13121 9754
Three Mth ECU Previous open interest: 22251	Sep 97 Dec 97	95.73 95.71	95.75 95.72	95.72 95.69	95.73 95.69	737 747
FTSE 100 Previous open interest: 75627	Sep 97 Dec 97	4940.0 5057.0	5058.0 5120.0	4945.0 5057.0	5016.0 5076.0	22977 156

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O'night high: 7[illegible] Low 5[illegible] Week fixed: 6[illegible]

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6[illegible]; 3 mth 6[illegible]. Sell: 2 mth 6[illegible]; 3 mth: 6[illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	7-7	
Sterling Money Rates	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open 6[illegible] close 6[illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps	6[illegible]	n/a	6[illegible]	7[illegible]	7[illegible]
Sterling CDs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs	5.55	n/a	5.59	5.70	5.92
Building Society CDs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $318.90-319.20 **Close:** $318.90-319.40 **High:** $321.25-321.75 **Low:** $318.90-[illegible] **AM:** $319.50 **PM:** $319.50

Krugerrand: $[illegible] (£[illegible])

Platinum: $407.5 (£242.20) **Silver:** $4.32 (£2.575) **Palladium:** $175.25 (£104.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for July 16	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.3757-3.3920	3.3896-3.3920	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Brussels	61.860-62.255	62.139-62.255	19-14pr	59-51pr
Copenhagen	11.427-11.497	11.474-11.494	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	1.1112-1.1160	1.1145-1.1160	9-2pr	23-16pr
Frankfurt	2.9962-3.0142	3.0102-3.0129	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Lisbon	302.15-304.39	304.06-304.39	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Madrid	252.55-253.67	253.39-253.66	34-23pr	114-95pr
Milan	2915.4-2928.3	2924.2-2927.8	2pr-15ds	14pr-8ds
Montreal	2.2863-2.3026	2.2999-2.3030	1.38-1.30pr	1.38-1.30pr
New York	1.6746-1.6762	1.6751-1.6760	0.168-0.147pr	0.55-0.52pr
Oslo	12.508-12.544	12.505-12.520	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Paris	10.126-10.180	10.167-10.176	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Stockholm	13.110-13.194	13.130-13.150	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Tokyo	193.72-194.61	194.34-194.58	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Vienna	21.167-21.196	21.179-21.199	[illegible]pr	2-1[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.4715-2.4862	2.4833-2.4862	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr

Source: Ernst *Premium pr. Discount ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3588-1.3598
Austria	12.64-12.65
Belgium (Com)	37.09-37.14
Canada	1.3726-1.3731
Denmark	6.8513-6.8533
France	6.0715-6.0735
Germany	1.7972-1.7977
Hong Kong	7.7480-7.7490
Ireland	1.5020-1.5040
Italy	1746.25-1747.25
Japan	116.03-116.08
Malaysia	2.5850-2.5900
Netherlands	2.0234-2.0244
Norway	7.4670-7.4730
Portugal	181.42-181.47
Singapore	1.4484-1.4494
Spain	151.36-151.46
Sweden	7.8364-7.8439
Switzerland	1.4820-1.4830

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6746-1.6773
Australia dollar	2.2758-2.2787
Bahrain dinar	0.6360-0.6380
Brazil real*	1.8071-1.8116
China yuan	13.744-14.044
Cyprus pound	0.8760-0.8860
Finland markka	8.8150-8.9310
Greece drachma	467.75-474.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.9818-12.9912
India rupee	59.37-60.33
Indonesia rupiah	4089.0-4157.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5020-0.5120
Malaysia ringgit	4.3312-4.3379
New Zealand dollar	2.5394-2.5436
Pakistan rupee	67.40 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0950-6.2190
Singapore dollar	2.4270-2.4301
S Africa rand (com)	7.5970-7.6090
U A E dirham	6.0950-6.2190

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	2,900	Ladbroke	5,000
ASDA Gp	6,500	Land Secs	1,700
Abbey Ntl	4,900	Legal & Gn	6,700
Allnce & Leic	4,100	Lloyds TSB	10,600
Allied Dom	2,400	LucasVarity	7,100
AB Foods	1,500	Marks Spr	8,200
BAA	3,600	Mercury Ast	1,300
BAT Inds	9,300	NatWst Bk	13,300
BG	11,900	Nat Grid	8,600
BOC	829	Nat Power	5,000
BP	6,800	Next	1,400
BSkyB	1,000	Orange	1,800
BTR	17,200	P & O	3,800
BT	49,300	Pearson	2,200
Bk of Scot	9,000	PowerGen	2,600
Barclays	7,400	Prudential	5,400
Bass	3,700	RMC	558
Blue Circle	3,900	Railtrack	2,800
Boots	4,900	Rank Group	2,500
BAe	1,200	Reckitt Col	946
BA	7,000	Reed Intl	2,000
British Land	2,800	Rentokil	5,600
Brit Steel	15,500	Reuters	3,600
Burmah Cstl	868	Rio Tinto	2,100
Cable Wire	4,400	Rolls Royce	5,900
Cadbury	1,900	Royal & Sun	5,700
Carlton Cms	2,700	Royal Bk Sct	5,100
Centrica	11,800	Safeway	4,500
Cm Union	4,000	Sainsbury	5,400
Dixons	4,300	Schroders	123
EMI	2,100	Scot & New	4,900
Energy Gp	2,200	Scot Power	36,500
Enterpr Oil	2,700	Svrn Trent	3,200
GKN	778	Shell Trans	12,900
GRE	3,200	Siebe	2,600
GUS	3,100	SmKl Bch	6,200
Gen Acc	755	Smiths Inds	1,000
Gen Elec	9,400	Std Chartd	2,500
Glaxo Well	5,300	TI Gp	4,100
Granada	2,300	Tate & Lyle	5,900
Grand Met	9,600	Tesco	3,000
Guinness	5,500	Thames W	467
HSBC	5,000	Tomkins	6,500
Halifax	9,500	Unilever	1,400
Hanson	2,900	Utd Utilities	1,800
Hays	633	Utd News	855
ICI	5,500	Vodafone	10,300
Imp Tob	10,300	Whitbread	1,300
Kingfisher	1,900	Wolseley	1,400
LASMO	3,500	Zeneca	2,300

WALL STREET

	Jul 16 midday	Jul 15 close		Jul 16 midday	Jul 15 close		Jul 16 midday	Jul 15 close
AMP Inc	46	46	Edison Int	24	24	Oryx Energy Co	22	22
AMR Corp	95	95	Elect Data Sys	45	45	Owens Corning	42	42
AT & T	34	35	Emerson Elec	56	56	PPG Industries	61	61
Abbott Labs	63	64	Engelhard Corp	22	22	PMI Group	62	62
Advanced Micro	39	36	Enron Corp	38	39	PNC Bank	42	42
Aetna Life	105	104	Entergy	27	27	PP&L Res	20	20
Ahmanson (HF)	47	47	Ethyl Corp	9	9	Paccar Inc	44	45
Air Prod & Chem	80	85	Exxon	62	62	PacifiCorp	22	22
AirTouch Comm	28	28	FMC Corp	80	80	Pac Enterprises	34	33
Albertson's	38	38	FPL Group	46	46	Pall Corp	24	24
Alcan Aluminm	35	35	Federal Express	59	57	Parker Hannifin	65	63
Allied Signal	89	88	Fifth Third Banc	92	91	Peco Energy	22	22
Alum Co of Am	79	79	First Bk Sys	89	89	Penney (JC)	56	56
Amerada Hess	55	55	Fleet Finl Grp	64	64	Pennzoil	76	76
Amer El Power	44	44	Fluor Corp	56	56	PepsiCo	36	37
Amer Express	79	80	Ford Motor	42	42	Pfizer	58	61
Amer Genl Corp	49	49	Fortune Brands	39	39	Pharm & Upjhn	37	37
Amer Home Pr	80	81	Franklin Res	76	75	Phelps Dodge	84	85
Amer Intl	152	152	GTE Corp	46	46	Philip Morris	43	42
Amer Stores	53	53	Gannett	102	102	Phillips Pet	43	43
Amer Standard	45	45	Gap Inc Del	39	39	Pitney Bowes	73	73
Ameritech	68	68	Gen Dynamics	77	77	Polaroid	56	56
Amgen	58	57	Gen Electric	72	72	Procter & Gmbl	152	152
Amoco	89	90	Gen Mills	66	66	Providian	35	35
Andrew Corp	32	33	Gen Motors	55	54	Pub Serv E & G	25	25
Anheuser-Busch	45	44	Gen Reinsurance	194	194	Quaker Oats	45	45
Apple Computer	15	15	Gen Signal	52	51	Ralston Purina	88	87
Archer Daniels	23	23	Genuine Parts	34	34	Raychem Corp	76	76
Armco	4	4	Georgia Pac	94	93	Raytheon	55	54
Armstrng Wrld	67	68	Gillette	103	101	Reebok Intl	47	47
Asarco	32	32	Glaxo Wellc ADR	47	48	Reynolds Metals	73	71
Atl Richfield	68	68	Goodrich (BF)	46	46	Rockwell Intl	64	63
Atmel Corp	35	34	Goodyear Tire	62	62	Rohm & Haas	90	90
Auto Data Pro	48	48	Gt Atl Pac Tea	26	26	Royal Dutch	54	54
Avery Dennison	41	41	Halliburton	85	83	Rubbermaid	29	29
Avon Products	77	75	Harcourt General	48	48	SBC Comms	58	58
Baker Hughes	45	44	Heinz (HJ)	46	46	Safeco Corp	48	47
Baltim Gas & El	27	27	Hercules	52	52	St Paul's Cos	80	80
Banc One	49	48	Hershey Foods	58	57	Sallie Mae	138	138
BankAmerica	67	66	Hewlett Packard	68	68	Salomon Inc	54	54
Bank of NY	47	45	Hilton Hotels	29	29	Sara Lee Corp	44	44
Bankers Tr NY	94	93	Home Depot	46	46	Schering Plough	49	49
Barnett Banks	54	54	Homestake Mng	13	13	Schlumberger	73	73
Bausch & Lomb	44	44	Honeywell	78	78	Seagram	39	39
Baxter Intl	58	58	Household Intl	117	118	Sears Roebuck	56	54
Bectn Dickinsn	55	55	Houston Inds	21	21	Shell Trans	43	42
Bell Atlantic	72	72	Humana	23	23	Sherwin Wllms	31	31
BellSouth	46	47	ITT Corp	66	62	Silicon Graphics	17	17
Black & Decker	41	41	Ikon Office	26	26	Snap-On-Tools	40	40
Block (H&R)	35	36	Illinois Tool	55	53	Southern Co	22	22
Boeing	58	58	Illinova	22	22	Southtrust	42	42
Boise Cascade	36	36	INCO	30	30	Sprint Corp	46	47
Boston Scien	72	70	Ingersoll Rand	62	62	Stanley Works	46	45
Bristol Myrs Sq	86	87	Inland Steel	25	25	Sun Company	32	32
Browning Ferris	36	36	Intel Corp	86	80	Sun Microsys	42	41
Brunswick	30	31	IBM	96	96	Suntrust	60	60
Burlington Nthn	95	95	Intl Flav & Fr	49	50	Supervalu	41	40
CMS Energy Corp	35	35	Intl Paper	58	58	Synovus Fin	28	29
CPC Intl	100	99	James River Va	40	40	Sysco Corp	38	38
CSX	59	59	Jhnsn & Jhnsn	61	61	TRW Inc	60	59
Campbell Soup	51	51	Kellogg	89	89	TIG Hldgs	31	31
Carolina Pwr	37	37	Kerr-McGee	63	63	Tandem Comp	26	25
Case Corp	66	65	Kimberly-Clark	53	52	Tandy Corp	54	54
Caterpillar	55	55	Kmart	10	10	Temple Inland	63	63
Central & SW	21	21	Knight-Ridder	50	50	Tenet Healthcare	29	29
Chmpion Intl	61	60	Lilly (Eli)	113	116	Tenneco	44	44
Chase Manhat	103	102	Limited Inc	20	20	Texaco	109	109
Chevron Corp	76	76	Lincoln Nat	65	65	Texas Inst	112	109
Chrysler	34	35	Litton	53	52	Texas Utilities	34	34
Chubb Corp	66	66	Liz Claiborne	47	47	Textron	66	65
Cigna Corp	185	185	Lockheed Martin	103	103	Thermo Elect	34	34
Citicorp	127	125	Louisiana Pac	22	22	Time Warner	46	45
Clorox	128	125	MCI Comm	36	35	Times-Mirror A	58	58
Conrail Corp	55	55	Manpower Inc	47	47	Timken	36	36
Coca Cola	70	70	Marriott Int	67	67	Torchmark	75	75
Coca Cola Ent	25	24	Marsh & McLnn	71	71	Toys R Us	32	32
Colgate-Palm	73	73	Masco Corp	41	41	Transamerica	97	97
Columbia Gas	70	69	May Dept St	51	51	Travelers	67	66
ColumbiaHCA	38	38	Maytag Corp	27	27	Tribune	52	51
Compaq Comp	127	127	McDonalds	50	49	UST Inc	29	28
Comp Ass Int	66	65	McDonnell D	74	73	UAL	75	74
ConAgra	68	67	McGraw Hill	63	61	US Inds	40	40
Cons Edison	30	30	Mead Corp	69	69	US West Comm	38	37
Cons Nat Gas	56	56	Medtronic	91	91	US West Media	21	21
Cooper Inds	52	51	Mellon Bk	48	48	USAirways Group	35	35
CoreStates	55	55	Merck Inc	99	100	USX Marathon	31	30
Corning Inc	58	57	Merrill Lynch	67	68	Unicom	22	22
C'wide Credit	31	31	Microsoft	141	138	Unilever NV	222	222
Crestar Finl	42	42	Minnesota Mine	101	102	Union Camp	55	55
Crown Cork	50	50	Mobil Corp	72	72	Union Carbide	52	51
Dana Corp	37	37	Monsanto	49	50	Union Pacific	72	72
Dayton Hudson	56	57	Morgan (JP)	108	108	Unisys Corp	9	8
Deere	55	54	Motorola Inc	88	87	USF&G Corp	24	24
Delta Air Lines	84	83	Natl Semi	32	34	United Tech	87	86
Deluxe Corp	34	34	Natl Service Ind	50	50	Unocal Corp	38	38
Digital Equip	39	39	Navistar Int	20	20	VF Corp	88	88
Dillard Dept St	35	35	NY Times A	53	53	Wal-Mart Stores	35	35
Disney (Walt)	78	77	Newmont Mng	37	37	Warner-Lambert	136	130
Dominion Res	36	36	Niag Mohawk	9	9	Waste Mngmt	31	31
Donnelley (RR)	39	39	Nike B	62	61	Wells Fargo	264	267
Dover Corp	68	67	NL Industries	14	14	Westinghouse El	24	24
Dow Chemical	91	90	Noram Energy	15	15	Weyerhaeuser	55	57
Dow Jones	41	41	Nordstrom	55	53	Whirlpool	51	51
Dresser	39	40	Norfolk Sthrn	110	111	Whitman	26	26
Duke Power	49	49	Nthn State Pwr	51	51	Winn Dixie	37	37
Dun & Bradstreet	27	27	Norwest Corp	60	61	Witco Corp	41	41
Du Pont	61	61	Nynex Corp	56	56	Woolworth	25	24
Eastman Chem	59	60	Occidental Pet	24	23	Wrigley (Wm) Jr	71	70
Eastman Kodak	67	70	Ohio Edison	22	22	Xerox	81	82
Eaton Corp	88	88	Oracle	57	56	Xilinx Inc	57	57

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Hands off our private pensions

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

A generation ago, money-purchase pensions that relied wholly on investment returns had a terrible reputation. Typically they had been invested for safety in government gilt-edged stock, most of whose value had been lost to inflation and higher interest rates. Lots of people on modest incomes who had put in small sums for decades discovered that they had little to show for it. They had to rely on the State.

Postwar generations would not fall into the same trap. To public acclaim, such inflexible poor people's pensions died out. Soon, it seems, they are going to be resuscitated for all. This week's attempt by the Director-General of Fair Trading to lay down a rigid new pattern for private pensions exemplifies the 1990s compulsion to muck about with the serious business of providing for retirement.

First came the scare about a demographic timebomb, later exposed as no more than a pretext for the Tory Government to cut state pension provision even further. With state provision falling and the misconceived state earnings-related scheme headed for history, the hunt was on for low-cost invested pension plans for the large minority of lower earners and part-timers who had no occupational pensions at all.

Expensive tailor-made personal pensions, aggressively mis-sold to people who could not afford them, put many off private pensions for life. Sir John Anson's Retirement Income Inquiry, sponsored by the National Association of Pension Funds, wanted a compulsory national second-tier pension fund between the state pension and voluntary occupational funds. Others want to resuscitate industry-wide occupational schemes.

Under Peter Lilley, the Department of Social Security calculated that any money-purchase replacement for Serps would cost too much for the relatively small individual sums likely to be invested in it. So Mr Lilley proposed privatising the whole state pension to make the sums add up, with a fallback state guarantee. This required new generations to give up tax relief on contributions, undermining occupational schemes.

Labour toyed with various schemes in opposition, then promised an inquiry, due to be announced today. Gordon Brown's Budget meddling has already made its task far harder.

His dividend grab cut investment returns, making it nigh on impossible to design a cost-effective Serps replacement. By cutting the tax advantage of pensions as a savings vehicle, and showing this could happen again, it has undermined public faith even more. More employers will now close final-salary schemes. In an unstable society, this makes sense in theory, except that, in practice, final salary schemes usually still deliver better pensions for long-standing employees than lower-cost defined contribution schemes.

The OFT appears to think that both kinds of scheme fleece the public. This will not help to rebuild confidence. Its solution is to devise a new template for pensions that will make investment returns the same and focus consumer choice on cost. A consumer watchdog has no business designing new financial services products. To do so undermines its credibility as fatally as the Consumers' Association launching its *Which?* credit card.

The competition authority has come up with the fallacious argument companies always use to justify monopoly. Why waste money duplicating different models and spending vast sums marketing in competition with rivals?

The OFT utility pension relies on puerile top-down academic analysis. Most pension funds fail to beat the average investment performance. Therefore, money spent on trying to do so is wasted and most fund members would be better off without any investment management. The research paper on which this depends, relying on efficient market theory, says that any claimed skill at timing switches between securities and cash "relies on the assumption that professional managers possess insider information (potentially illegally obtained)".

On such intellectual foundations, OFT experts recommend a standard minimum cost pension scheme that tracks the share index, investing proportionately in the stocks that make up it up. Such index funds often give good value for money. That is why competition has made tracker funds popular. But picking stocks is only one aspect of investment management. Allocating funds between UK shares, gilt-edged, foreign equities, corporate bonds and cash is as important.

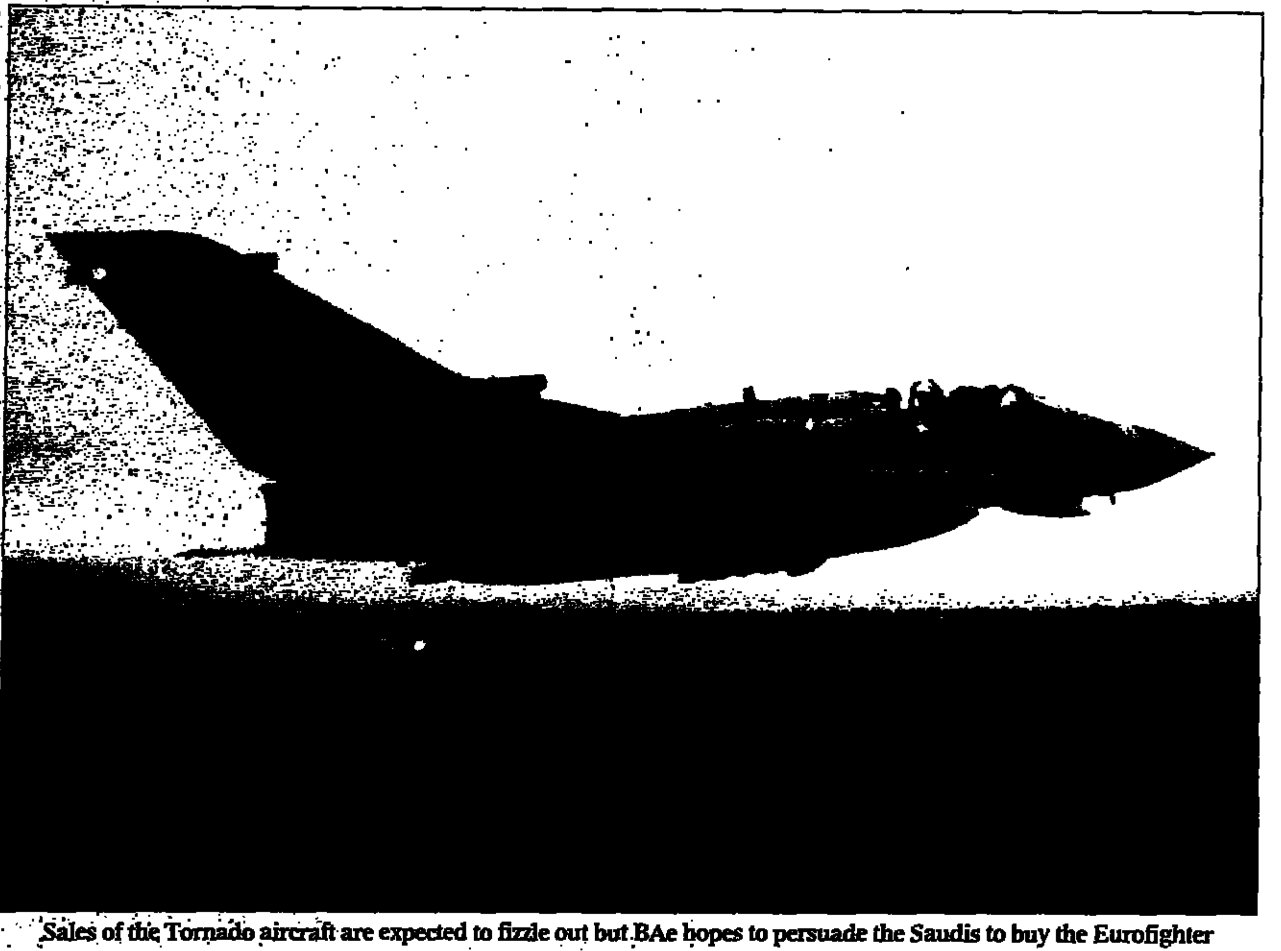
Any fund that sets today's investment ideas in stone for 40 years ahead is asking to be as big a disaster as the old funds that invested only in gilt-edged. In 15 years time, bonds may be a better investment than equities. And it would be foolish to restrict anything beyond a low-grade basic scheme to UK investment, even if you could under EU law.

Index funds need to be a minority sport. If the majority of pension money were invested that way, the index would soon become hopelessly distorted and manipulated. Without flexibility, ethical investment choices, smaller stocks and the venture capital industry would wither away as their main source of capital dried up. And specifying a tracker fund begs the question of which index to track: the FTSE 100 top shares, some world index of blue chips or an "all-share" index that still covers only a minority of stocks.

The Government inquiry should realise what damage is done by tinkering. Today's young people face compulsory savings in an inflexible vehicle whose chief virtue is tax relief. Once their savings have been seized, they can safely bet that successive Chancellors will remove the reliefs. Unless the Government is careful, ordinary people will become as keen to avoid pensions as taxes.

Difficult customer reaches out to arms of Western capitalism

Oliver August looks at the way Britain's links with Saudi Arabia are growing



Sales of the Tornado aircraft are expected to fizzle out but BAe hopes to persuade the Saudis to buy the Eurofighter

If one placed all British trading partners in one classroom, Saudi Arabia would stand out as a highly gifted but difficult pupil. The desert state has been one of the UK's most lucrative export destinations over the past decade. But, at times it has also been one of British industry's most awkward clients.

The £20 billion al-Yamamah arms-for-oil deal struck by Margaret Thatcher in the mid-1980s is still the largest ever UK export agreement. Millions have flown into Treasury coffers and hundreds of British Aerospace jobs have been created with every Tornado aircraft flown to a desert base.

Many British businessmen, however, feel reminded of Communist Eastern Europe when they go to Riyadh. Secrecy is intense, the bureaucracy is unrelenting and almost all business is conducted directly through the State and influenced by its ideology. It was with some surprise, therefore, that exporters greeted yesterday's Confederation of British Industry forum to discuss Saudi trade which included a host of high-profile Saudi figures — and they all arrived in lounge suits rather than white robes and traditional head dress.

Saudi Arabia, the birth place of Islam, is reaching out to Western capitalism. The royal family around the ailing King Fahd is visibly pleased with its close co-operation with UK companies and now wants to invite in more. Last year alone, British exports to the country grew by 50 per cent to £2.5 billion. Proudly, the Saudis tell their new business partners about their 1 per cent inflation rate in what has become an economic virility test.

Chairing the forum, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Faisal bin Turki, said: "We welcome as much contact as possible. In the future, there will be more opportunities to participate."

The same note was struck by Lord Clinton-Davis, the Trade Minister, who said: "Saudi Arabia is a very important market for us. Growth looks set to continue this year. We want to maximise exports through the al-Yamamah programme. Saudi Arabia is not the strange land of popular perceptions. The Department of Trade and Industry has just embarked on a two-year export promotion."

Prince Abdullah had said: "The Saudis are quite conservative. We only discovered the 20th century in the 1950s." Lord Clinton-Davis retorted: "I hope you are referring to small 'c' conservatism, as you did congratulate me on Labour's victory." Relations are not always so easy and good-humoured. The al-Yamamah deal is a government-to-government programme. This has many advantages, the Saudis are quick to point out. Incentives include interest-free loans, exemption from duty, a ten-year tax holiday and no restrictions on the repatriation of funds.

But this list is also a good pointer to the problems companies are likely to encounter in the country. The notoriously difficult business conditions may be tackled with the help of the Saudis or not at all. For a UK chief executive, there is no such thing as being in charge of Saudi operations.

To help UK companies, BAe and the Ministry of Defence operate a trade development agency called the British Offset Office. They are using their local expertise and contacts developed over the past decade to open the door for the rest of British industry. Banks, investors and consultants are on hand to give confidential guidance on how to deal with the Saudis. Companies such as Shell, Glaxo, Tate & Lyle and BP have been beneficiaries.

BAe has also become involved in the programme as an underwriter for other UK companies. Steve Mogford, managing director of the systems and services division, said: "This is a new scheme we are putting in place under the al-Yamamah programme." BAe will guarantee a Saudi loan to a fellow company that is investing in the kingdom. The maximum value of the loan is £6.25 million.

But there are further complications for British exporters. To join the programme, companies have to fulfil certain criteria. Projects are to be joint ventures with Saudi companies. They have to add up to an investment of at least £10 million. And most importantly, technological skills and knowledge have to be transferred to the local community. Consequently, BAe alone employs 1,500 Saudis to assemble aircraft instead of doing so in Warton, Lancashire.

The Saudi employees are assisted by 3,500 British engineers, accountants and pilots permanently stationed around the Arabian peninsula. BAe seems to find it difficult to employ enough UK personnel to man the desert outposts. It continues to advertise for military recruits in the RAF newsletter.

A BAe recruitment document obtained by *The Times* paints a hilariously rosy picture of the conditions in the kingdom. It says: "Even though Saudi Arabia does not have a tradition of public entertainment facilities in the cities, you will never be short of ways to spend your leisure time. Obviously the choice of recreational activity varies according to where you are based."

The text is accompanied by pictures of the stony desert. "For the more energetic types, competitive pursuits like road running and cycling are catered for as is golf." The gulf state, which is regularly criticised by human rights organisations, is also being described as "a model of stability".

Even BAe cannot gloss over some of the problems that employees can expect. The RAF men are told: "Saudi Arabia remains a deeply religious country at the heart of the Islamic faith and Saudi Arabian nationals place a high value on preserving their culture and traditions. The consumption of alcohol and pork products are both forbidden and visitors, whatever their nationality, can expect the law to be rigorously applied."

The RAF men may have heard of the two British nurses in a Saudi jail and possibly facing a death sentence. Andrew Green, the Ambassador to Riyadh, said: "There are 30,000 UK citizens working in Saudi Arabia. Only two or three are in jail at any one time. Some are very awkward cases but there are only one or two of them."

The question on most Saudi watchers' minds at the moment is whether the heart of the al-Yamamah deal, the sale of military aircraft, will maintain its momentum. This would give an enormous boost to all UK exports to the country

Barnaby Wiener, analyst at Merrill Lynch, wrote in his latest BAe report: "The second phase of al-Yamamah was initiated in 1993 with the order for 48 further Tornados. The current order backlog is around £5.5 billion, nearly half the total defence order book."

The export of Tornados will fizzle out next year. BAe's ground support is to continue, but earnings will decline. Now BAe cannot wait to sell the Saudis its latest toy, the Eurofighter, under another al-Yamamah style deal.

Ever the difficult customer, the Saudis have adopted Mrs Thatcher's successor's motto: wait and see.

Succession has its fashions

Martin Waller says brands can survive the loss of a figurehead

There is a polite fiction about brand names. The same fiction surrounds celebrity chefs and celebrity hairdressers. No one believes that Gary Rhodes personally slices each aubergine, even if he is billed as the chef in his restaurants; no one expects Pierre Cardin to have personally wielded the scissors on every suit that sells for £300 at the local department store.

But the existence of the brand figurehead matters in high fashion, and his or her sudden death can cause a hiatus that can break the company. The shock shooting of Gianni Versace in Miami leaves a gap at the top of the fashion house that will, once the family grieving is over, have to be filled.

Donatella, Gianni's sister, is seen as the natural successor — she already designs much of the range on sale at the company's 100 shops around the world even if her brother was in charge of the *haute couture* on the catwalk. Other fashion houses have been less fortunate. The normal pattern has been to import a hot-shot designer from outside, or promote one conveniently already employed within, to continue the figurehead's work.

John Galliano, the flamboyant British designer, was recruited last autumn to update the house of Christian Dior, which has suffered years of vicious infighting. Karl Lagerfeld is at Chanel. It is unlikely that the great woman herself, Coco Chanel, who died in 1971, would have approved of what he has done with her legacy, but he has turned the brand around financially.

Tom Ford achieved the same at Gucci, also riven by fratricidal quarrels, in the 1990s. What was once a fading luxury goods house with a slightly tacky image is now back in the front rank of fashion.

In 1957 when Christian Dior died from a heart attack, a young man called Yves Saint Laurent was promoted from within. It worked, for a while: but four years later he sued Dior for enough money to start his own fashion house.

This is one danger. The other is that the successor is too stuck in the mould of his mentor to move the brand forward.

Pam Robertson is director of strategy at Interbrand, the consultant on brands. She points to a British example. After Laura Ashley died in 1985, her work was continued by her husband Bernard, the business brain of the partnership. "They had a real hiccup," says Ms Robertson. "They tried to retain the brand as it was when she created it, when as a designer she would have moved it on."

The company kept the *Diary of an Edwardian Country Lady* feel that had made its name. Only recently, under Ann Iverson, the American chief executive, has the company been heading towards a more modern look, and it is a move that, as disappointed investors are too well aware, has yet to prove successful.

"The trick is finding a designer who shares the same vision as the original," says Ms Robertson. "If the brand is a true one it has an essence which has to be maintained, but it also has to be moved on. That's the real trick."

By this argument, carrying out the trick at Versace should not be difficult in the short term, because his design is sufficiently distinctive to suit imitation. But some in the fashion world say his look, of aggressive female sexuality, has been overtaken by more restrained designers such as Prada and Gucci.

Perhaps the best course of action is that adopted by Max Mara, an Italian house that is shaping up to take over from Prada and Gucci at the cutting edge of fashion. There is a controlling family, with all the potential for friction that that brings. But there is not, and never was, a Max Mara. So the brand is immortal. And the brand is all.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Casual slip

HIGH farce at the High Court. Country Casuals, the bid-plagued womenswear chain, has settled the court action brought by former chairman John Shannon. This will be formally announced this morning. But the terms of settlement will not be announced, because both parties have been silenced by a confidentiality agreement. Shh. Nobody must ever know.

Except those present at the High Court yesterday — and readers of *The Times*. The lawyers acting for Country Casuals blurted the details out before they could be silenced by those acting for Shannon. He was suing for unfair dismissal and for full payment of his two-year rolling contract after his departure in September 1994, which was followed by a bid for the company by his vehicle. My spy in the courtroom says Shannon, who led the initial buy-out of Country Casuals in 1989, didn't get a bean, and was hit with a £250,000 bill for costs. But don't tell anyone I said so.

"Most nuisance callers seem to be shareholders trying to contact our chairman"

● *FROM the bulletin to all employees of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan about progress towards the merger: "Apologies to Spanish-speaking markets who received a misleading translation of the comments made by Einn (Johnsson) and Jack (McGrath) about the location of head offices for Asia and Latin America regions in Merger Bulletin no. 6. The translator misinterpreted the words 'they will be run out of Hong Kong and Miami' as 'they will be chased out of Hong Kong and Miami' with the result that 'the Spanish version said the exact opposite of what was intended."*

Short cut

A VERY nasty punch-up in the secretive world of headhunting. The story goes thus. An employee of a world-famous advertising group rings a headhunter, requesting details of candidates for an assignment in Poland, of all places. He asks for them to be sent to his private fax. The headhunter, which does act for the advertiser, obliges. In later conversation with the client, the name of the employee comes up.

Not one of ours, says the puzzled adman — we thought he was one of yours. He's been on to us too. The "employee" in fact worked for another headhunter, a bitter rival. He had found an ingenious short cut to avoid the sheer tedium of original research. The rival headhunter, I am told, tried to laugh it off, but the aggrieved party wants blood, and there is talk of the police being called in. Watch this space.

New Parker

A PUZZLED City woke up yesterday to read in a rival paper that Alan Parker, head of the Brunswick PR concern that has just taken over the British Airways account from Lowe Bell, was a "long-time Labour supporter". This is "long-time" as in "ever since May 2 this year," surely? Plenty of those around. Brunswick says its policy is that the senior partner should not be politically aligned. My impression is that Parker is something of a Blairite these days — which makes him anything but a long-time Labour man, I would have thought.

● *FORTUNE OIL has inserted a curious condition into the option to take new shares granted to Barry Cheung, its clean-living chief executive. Shareholders at the extraordinary meeting of the oil trader on Monday week will have to vote on a clause that requires the option to lapse if Cheung's employment is terminated in certain circumstances, "for example serious misconduct, personal bankruptcy, persistent insobriety (!) or death".*

Celtic call

FORGET the abrupt plunge in BT's shares last week after a surprise profits warning from MCI, the American phone company BT is trying to buy for £12 billion. Forget the executive pay and awards scheme at the merged company, among the most lavish on the planet. What aroused the greatest passion at BT's annual meeting in Edinburgh yesterday was phone boxes and phone directories. One articulate, albeit pedantic, investor complained that the Welsh signs in BT's phone boxes in Wales — the translation of the &, to be specific — did not make Celtic sense. Another complained, also at length, that names in the Edinburgh phone directory were not always listed in alphabetical order. Sir Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, listened with reasonable patience. He clearly could not believe his luck.

MARTIN WALLER

Sir Iain Vallance got off lightly at BT's annual meeting in Edinburgh

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ACCOUNTANCY

Giving technical leadership

David Perry sets out the challenge alongside his vision for the future

THE English ICA has always rightly prided itself on the quality of its technical output and it has a long tradition of contributing to the development of thinking and technical standards across all areas of chartered accountants' work. Much is done by unpaid volunteers working in business and the practising firms who rely on the support and leadership of the full-time institute staff.

Having had about six weeks to begin to understand the vast range of technical activities undertaken within the institute or co-ordinated by it, I am now better able to pull together my vision for the future.

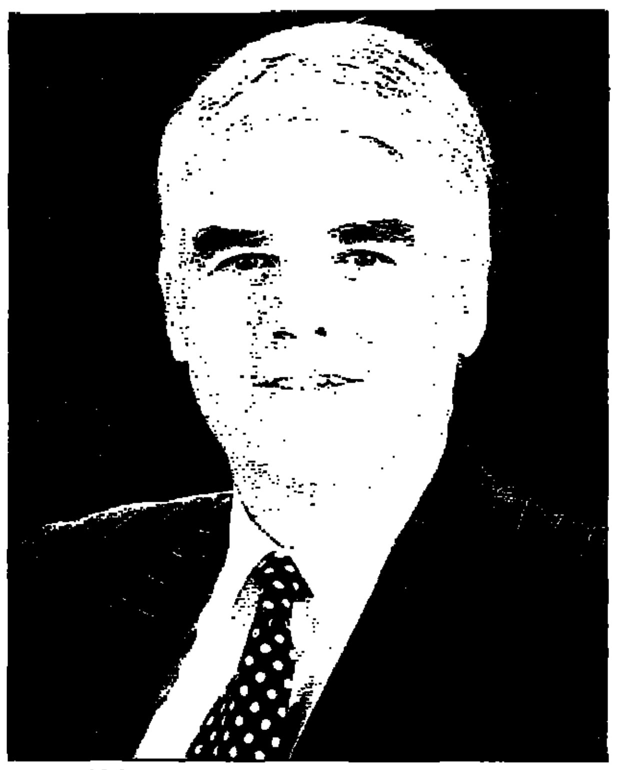
Broadly, I believe the Institute has a duty to provide a clear and relevant technical leadership, with the aim of continually raising standards and knowledge. It represents members in different constituencies whose interests do not always coincide. The concerns of the largest auditing firms for example may not be the same as those of the smallest; the concerns of finance directors and chartered accountants working in business generally are often different or opposed to those of members in practice. The focus of technical activities must recognise differences and aim to provide support for all members.

While recognising the desirability of seeking agreed submissions to the international debate through the use of Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB) committees, I am aware that this has resulted in the institute's own voice not being clearly heard. The institute should also publicise its own views alongside those of the CCAB.

As members working in business comprise about half the membership of the Institute, more effort needs to be extended to provide relevant technical support to those engaged in the management of finance functions.

The institute cannot be complacent in the technical area. It is important that there is perceived value from its technical activities which must be focused on what members need to help them in their daily work, as well as being sufficiently far-sighted and radical so that the institute is seen as being a valuable contributor to the formulation of law, standards and policy by government, international bodies and standard setters.

We should not just represent the views of members — a difficult enough task given the size and disparate views of the membership — but also take positions on technical issues with which many of our members may not agree.



David Perry welcomes contributions to the debate

Some particular areas where the institute should take a lead include:

☐ Corporate accountability and reporting on the Internet — the use of the Internet for making corporate information available poses many questions for preparers and users of financial statements. The institute is to host a conference on corporate accountability in cyberspace this year at which the issues will be discussed.

☐ The introduction of the euro. This will have a significant impact on British companies, whether the UK is in or out of the first phase. The issues are not fully understood and despite the best efforts of the DTI and the UK 100 group there remains vast ignorance of its effects and what needs to be done to prepare.

☐ The Year 2000 issue (or "millennium timebomb") is well recognised as a threat to many businesses. The Institute is already providing much help and advice to its members through the Faculties of Finance and Management and Information Technology. The technical department is actively working to coordinate institute activities and to provide practical advice to members, to alert them to the problems and to assist in finding workable solutions.

☐ Fraud is an increasing cost to businesses. The recent successful conference on fraud at Moorgate Place has led to the plan to set up a Fraud Advisory Panel, which will be organised by the Audit Faculty.

The next three years are likely to pose many challenges for those contributing to the technical agenda. Apart from the impact on the institute, they will affect standard setters with the move to increased use of international accounting and auditing standards. The institute is well placed to respond to these challenges, but must remain alert and focused on the important issues. Part of my role is to ensure that it does so and I welcome comment and advice from all those with an interest in contributing to the debate.

David Perry was appointed Director of Technical Development and Promotion at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in May. Previously he was a partner at Arthur Andersen, and spent two years at the firm's Moscow and St Petersburg offices.

Papers shatter myths about evil empires

THERE has always been an uneasy relationship between academics and practitioners. The academics argue that accountants in business and practice never think but just power ahead with the bottom line in focus. Accountants in business and practice take the view that academics exist in a feather-bedded never-never land and, on the few occasions that they come into contact with the business world, tend to savage it unmercifully.

Neither view is true. Both sides like to keep the pretence going, but on the evidence of this week's annual conference on financial accounting and auditing research, funded by the English ICA, it is going to become increasingly difficult. It opened with Chris Swinson, the institute's deputy president, suggesting the distance between academics and practitioners was "a great weakness in the profession".

But hardly had he sat down than we heard from the first two research papers that the large accountancy firms were doing a good job and were reckoned to be pretty independent in outlook. In the past this would have had academics falling off their chairs in disbelief. Traditionally the view has been that large accounting firms were good for a bit of funding but, that apart, were evil empires.

ROBERT BRUCE

First, Peter Moizer, of Leeds University Business School, delivered his paper on company directors' views on the performance of their auditors. Moizer carried out a similar survey in 1987, based on the views of the finance directors of The Times Top 1,000 companies. Now, with a survey in 1996, he has updated it and can show trends over what has been a turbulent decade for accountants. The key point is that it destroys many myths. One is that finance directors hate their auditors. It is assumed, from anecdotal evidence freely available in the bar after any conference on financial reporting, that auditors are a waste of space and, but for a statutory requirement, no one would submit to an audit. Yet Moizer's research tells a different story. Both 1987 and 1996 surveys show the performance of auditors to be rated highly and that views had hardly changed. Top of the satisfaction list was the technical competence of audit partners and bottom of the list, perhaps predictably, was value for money, though even that has improved slightly since 1987.

The surveys show that personal contact with the audit partner is rated as the vital factor in this success. Oddly enough, in that smaller firms make much more play of being able to provide sensible partner contact, this does not seem to come across in the perception of finance directors, though medium-sized firms seem to score better. In any case small and medium-sized firms have dropped out of the spectrum of the companies surveyed. In 1987 the top firms had 78.8 per cent of the market surveyed and the medium-sized firms had 11.1 per cent. The 1996 figures show the Big Six with 91.9 per cent of the market, medium-sized firms with 5.3 per cent.

Other elements stayed consistent. The average age of the finance directors involved remains at 43 years in both surveys, though the influence of finance directors' backgrounds appeared to have turned a somersault. In 1987 the more time a finance director had spent within an accountancy firm earlier in their career, the less they were likely to be satisfied with their auditors. The 1996 figures shows the opposite. For John Kellas, of KPMG, who provided the discussion on Moizer's paper, this was a pleasant surprise, as was the revelation that finance directors had spent, on average, 11 years with a professional firm. This again flies in the face of the perceived wisdom. "The perception in the firms," said Kellas, "is that the good people leave early, yet the survey suggests that stayers do best."

Other quirks stood out. Perception of the Big Six firms was that they were much of a muchness in both surveys. Only two firms stood out — for different reasons. In 1987 Price Waterhouse was pre-eminent in terms of perception of quality. Now it is back among the pack. In the 1996 survey Deloitte & Touche stood out as having the lowest performance rating. Overall the conclusions were that satisfaction with auditors is "remarkably stable in the period 1986-96 and reflects general satisfaction with the services provided by the audit firm".

Immediately after Moizer's paper more research, this time based on the Irish market, was unveiled. This showed that the Big Six firms were seen as more independent and more reliable than their competitors. It was up to Mike Power, of the LSE, to redress the balance. "Interviewees are unintelligent," he said. "It is almost not worth interviewing people who give the party line." There is life in the old accounting academic line still.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Contrived measure

NOTHING in the world of tax legislation ever becomes simpler. Even the categories of the ways not to pay tax are expanding. Blackstone Franks, the enterprising small accounting firm, has come up with a new one in its Budget commentary.

"It is interesting and worrying," it says, that "alongside tax avoidance, tax evasion and tax mitigation as ways not to pay tax," the Chancellor "has discerned a new category of 'contrived tax planning'."

Accountants naturally resent all this. They know that it is going to be the lawyers who clean up when legal definitions and clarifications are required.

Valentine's day

IF THE description is not a contradiction in terms, it should be obvious who is the happiest Scottish chartered accountant this week.

Ian Valentine, institute council member and senior chap with BDO Stoy Hayward, is also captain of the Royal Troon Golf Club just down the road from his Ayr office. And that is where the Open Golf Championship gets under way today.

Ring for Jeeves!

TONY RING, one-time president of the Chartered Institute of Taxation, was out drumming up custom for his other enthusiasm last week.

At the relaunch of the P. G. Wodehouse Society he was urging all and sundry to join. With everyone from the Prime Minister to Alan Coren as newly installed patrons, he was in good company.

Wodehouse's granddaughter sang her grandfather's songs, and Ring offered to demonstrate the Swedish exercises with which Wodehouse started each day.

These came from *Wooster Sauce*, the society's newsletter, which Ring now edits. All enthusiasts are invited to join and should call either 0171-230 5347 or Ring himself on 01494 864848.

ROBERT BRUCE

Court of Appeal — Law Report July 17 1997 — Court of Appeal

Curate cannot be an employee

Diocese of Southwark and Others v Coker

Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Ward and Lord Justice Mummery

[Judgment July 11]

An assistant curate in the Church of England was not an employee for the purposes of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 and accordingly an industrial tribunal had no jurisdiction to hear his complaint of unfair dismissal.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by Dr Alexander Coker against the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (*The Times*, April 4, 1996; [1996] ICR 896) on an appeal by the Diocese of Southwark, the Bishop of Southwark and the Diocesan Board of Finance from the decision of a South London industrial tribunal chairman (Professor R. W. Rideout) ([1995] ICR 563) on a preliminary issue of law, that the tribunal had jurisdiction to hear Dr Coker's claim that he had been unfairly dismissed when he was removed from the diocesan payroll in May 1994 after working as an assistant curate since December 1990.

Mr Joseph Hage for Dr Coker; Mr Paul Goulding for the appellants.

LORD JUSTICE MUMMERY said that the question on appeal was whether, while he was an assistant curate at St Luke's, Woodside, from December 1990 to December 1993 and at St Philip's, Cheam Common, from December 1993 to May 1994, Dr Coker was an employee for the purposes of the 1978 Act, now the Employment Rights Act 1996. If he was, he had the right not to be unfairly dismissed and by virtue of section 54(1) of the 1978 Act an industrial tribunal had jurisdiction to hear the complaint.

The original respondent to the application was named as the Diocese of Southwark, within which both St Luke's and St Philip's parishes were situated. However, the diocese, which was under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Southwark, had no capacity to sue or be sued and accordingly the appeal tribunal had ordered the bishop and the Diocesan Board of Finance, a limited company which paid Dr Coker's stipend, to be added as respondents.

The appeal focused on three questions: (i) Did Dr Coker have a contract at all?; (ii) If so, was it a contract of service?; (iii) If so, who was the employer? In his Lordship's judgment, the critical question was the first one.

Mr Hage made four points in support of his argument:

1 If, as the appeal tribunal had held, Dr Coker was not an employee, then it followed that not only did he not have rights under the 1978 Act but also the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Race Relations Act 1976, the Wages Act 1986 and health and safety rights. Mr Hage asked rhetorically: why should that be so?

2 Earlier authorities relied upon by the respondents invoked various justifications for members of the clergy not being employees, but there were only really two points which were that an assistant curate was an officer-holder and the duties were spiritual.

The chairman of the industrial tribunal, having referred to *Barthorpe v Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance* ([1979] ICR 900) had held that Dr Coker was not an office-holder. So far as spiritual duties being a bar to employment were concerned, it had been recognised in *Davies v Presbyterian Church of Wales* ([1986] ICR 280) that a man could be employed as a servant or an independent contractor, when carrying out exclusively spiritual duties.

3 The respondents' position was indefensible in principle or on policy grounds since all elements of a contract were present.

4 Mr Hage invited the court to distinguish earlier cases, all of which concerned non-conformist churches and submitted that the precedents did not prevent the court from holding that there was jurisdiction to entertain Dr Coker's claim. In enacting rights, Parliament had not expressly excluded the clergy and a modern approach needed to be taken.

In his Lordship's judgment, the decision of the industrial tribunal chairman was legally wrong. The error was in adopting an incorrect approach in assuming that there was a contractually enforceable agreement. Although it had not been explicitly analysed in the cases of *President of the Methodist Conference v Parfitt* ([1984] ICR 176) and *Davies v Presbyterian Church of Wales* the simple reason for the absence of a contract, was the lack of intention to create a contractual relationship of any kind.

In his Lordship's judgment, the position was as follows: that not every agreement constituted a binding contract, there had to be an intention to create legal relations; that the intention had to be objectively ascertained; in some cases, there was no contract, unless an intention had been established, such was the present case.

It was of critical significance that an assistant curate was ordained and was called to an office recognised by law: it was therefore not necessary to enter into a contract. It also made the relationship more appropriate for the spiritual jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts.

The law required clear evidence of an intention to create legal relations over and above those which were present here.

It had never been held that an incumbent of a parish was under a contract with the bishop or anyone else.

As far as his Lordship was concerned, it was difficult to see why an ordained priest was under a contract. His Lordship agreed with Mr Justice Parker in *In re National Insurance Act 1911* ([1912] 2 Ch 563) that a curate in the Church of England was not an employee. That legal position had not changed.

The right of an employee not to be unfairly dismissed by his employer under section 54(1) of the 1978 Act could not apply to Dr Coker because he did not have an employer.

The Diocese of Southwark was not his employer, nor was it a legal person. Those who paid Dr Coker neither appointed or removed him. That left the bishop who had the legal responsibility for licensing assistant curates. That relationship was governed by canonical obedience. There was no private law contract.

Lord Justice Ward agreed and Lord Justice Staughton delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Lawford & Co, Richmond upon Thames; Winckworth & Pemberton.

Driving when disqualification still valid is an offence

Regina v Thames Magistrates Court, Ex parte Levy

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Garland

[Judgment June 16]

A driver was guilty of driving a motor vehicle while disqualified for driving even when the original offence to which the disqualifying period related had been quashed.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held dismissing an application for judicial review by Darren Levy to quash his conviction by Mr Stephen Dawson, Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate at Thames Magistrates Court on October 23, 1996 of driving while disqualified contrary to section 103(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

On June 17, 1996 he had been found guilty of various motoring offences by Highbury Corner Magistrates Court for which he was sentenced, inter alia, to 12 months disqualification from driving. He appealed against the convictions but did not apply to have the disqualification suspended pending the outcome.

During the period of disqualification, he was twice stopped while driving and charged, inter alia, with driving while disqualified. On September 25, 1996 his appeal against the convictions of June 17 was successful and the convictions were quashed.

On October 23, 1996 at Thames Magistrates Court he was found guilty, inter alia, of driving while disqualified although the offence to which the disqualification related had been quashed.

Miss Ruth Kirby for the applicant; Mr Andrew Colman for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said the applicant had requested judicial review of the magistrate's refusal to state a case and an order of mandamus that he be required to state a case.

His Lordship considered the preferable approach was to face the true issue of the case and request judicial review of the legality of the conviction on October 23. The parties agreed and proceeded on that basis.

His Lordship referred to the statement of Lord Widgery in *R v Lynn* ([1971] RTR 369, 370): "The first point which was taken below but is not taken here was that, since the initial disqualification of December 3, 1969 was subsequently set aside on appeal, the act of driving on December 8, 1969 was not a breach of the law at all, in other words, it did not amount to an offence. That argument has not been pursued in this court, and rightly so, because it seems to us perfectly clear ... that that is an untenable argument. Although the disqualification was later removed, it was effective on December 8, 1969 and for the appellant to drive on December 8, 1969 was clearly a breach of the law."

The question before the court was whether that statement was right or wrong.

None of the authorities referred to by the appellant: *R v Barron* ((1914) 10 Cr App R 81), *Hancock v Prison Commissioners* ([1959] 3 All ER 513), *Sambasivam v Public Prosecutor, Federation of Malaya* ([1950] AC 458) and *In re G (an Infant) v Coltart* ([1967] 1 QB 432) gave any support to his argument that the quashing of the original conviction to which the disqualification period related had the consequence of nullifying the subsequent conviction of driving while disqualified.

The statement of Lord Widgery in *Lynn* was correct and every consideration of good justice led inevitably to the conclusion that it would be wrong to set aside the judgment of the magistrate. The appellant was guilty once and for all when pending an appeal he nevertheless drove a motor vehicle while an order of disqualification was lawfully in force.

Mr Justice Garland agreed.

Solicitors: J. D. Spicer & Co, Edmonton; Crown Prosecution Service, Thames Street.

Director's offence is absolute

Regina v Cole
Regina v Lees
Regina v Birch

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Mr Justice Collins and Mrs Justice Steel

[Judgment July 3]

The offence of being a director of a company known by a prohibited name, contrary to section 216 of the Insolvency Act 1986, was an offence of strict liability.

The disqualification order envisaged by section 1(1) of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 was only one disqualification with a number of different categories rather than five separate categories of disqualification.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in dismissing appeals by Philip Francis Cole, Francis Gerard Lees and David Brian Birch against their convictions in July 1996 at Liverpool Crown Court (Judge Richard Pickering and a jury) of being a director of a company known by a prohibited name, contrary to section 216 of the Insolvency Act 1986 for which they were each sentenced to perform 200 hours community service.

Cole and Lees were disqualified for being company directors for two years and each was ordered to pay £500 towards prosecution costs and Birch was disqualified for being a director, liquidator, administrator, receiver or manager of company property for three years and was ordered to pay £1,000 towards prosecution costs.

Section 216 of the Insolvency Act 1986 provides: "(1) This section applies to a person where a company ... has gone into insolvent liquidation ... and he was a director ... of the company at any time in the period of 12 months ending with the day before it went into liquidation.

"(2) ... a name is a prohibited name in relation to such a person if — ... (b) it is a name which is so similar ... as to suggest an association with that company.

"(3) Except with leave of the court ... a person to whom this section applies shall not ... (a) be a director of any other company that is known by a prohibited name...

"(4) If a person acts in contravention of this section, he is liable to imprisonment or a fine, or both."

Section 1 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 provides: "(1) ... a court may ... make against a person a disqualification order, that is to say an order that he shall not, without leave of the court — (a) be a director of a company, or (b) be a liquidator or administrator of a company, or (c) be a receiver or manager of a company's property, or (d) in any way, whether directly or indirectly, be concerned or take part in the promotion, formation or management of a company..."

Mr Ian McCulloch and Mr Duncan Macpherson, who did not appear below, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Cole and Lees; Miss Tanya Woolls, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals for Birch; Mr David Boulton (on conviction), Mr William Charles and Mr Malcolm Davis-White, who did not appear below (on sentence) for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the appellants were directors of a company called East Africa Freight Lines Ltd which had been carrying on business since October 1988.

In September 1991 a company called East Africa Lines was set up with the appellants as directors. The first company ran into financial difficulties and in March 1992 was wound up but the appellants continued to act as directors of the second company.

At a preliminary hearing submissions were heard as to whether section 216 of the Insolvency Act 1986 was an offence of strict liability. Initially the judge ruled that that proof of mens rea was required but having considered the guidance offered in *R v Brockley* ((1994) 99 Cr App R 385) in relation to a parallel provision in section 11 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 which created an offence where a person who was an undischarged bankrupted acted a director of a company, the judge decided his initial ruling was wrong and held that section 216 did create an absolute offence.

Their Lordships agreed that although the case of *R v Brockley* concerned a different section of a different act, by way of analogy it lent support to the prosecution's argument that proof of mens rea was not required.

In their Lordships' judgment the crucial words in section 216 were to be found in subsection (4) which contained in very plain terms what the prosecution had to prove and said nothing about proving knowledge or intention to defraud or deceive. In the absence of other grounds of appeal the convictions were accordingly safe and correct.

On the disqualification under section 1(1) of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, it was their Lordship's view that that Act envisaged only one disqualification not five separate categories.

It followed that the order made by the judge was invalid and should be made valid by each appellant being generally disqualified under section 1 from the date of sentence by the judge and for the period he stated.

That was not dealing with them differently, it was the way in which the judge ought to have dealt with them and was consistent with the approach of the Court of Appeal in the cases of *Re Gower Enterprises (No 2)* ([1995] 2 BCLC 201) and *Official Receiver v Hannan* (*The Times* March 20, 1997).

Solicitors: Solicitor, Department of Trade and Industry.

Court cannot grant solicitor only certificate

Regina v Seale

Before Lord Justice Rose, Mr Justice Holland and Mr Justice Langley

[Judgment July 3]

There was no power to grant legal aid representation by solicitor only under regulation 44(1) of the Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) Regulations (SI 1989 No 344).

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in dismissing an appeal by Peter Seale against his conviction at Manchester Crown Court (Judge Sachs and a jury) of five offences of robbery and one offence of having a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence, namely robbery. He was sentenced to concurrent prison terms of 18 years on each count.

The appellant in person; Mr Anthony Morris, QC and Mr Paul C. Reid for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that at the beginning of the trial the appellant had dispensed with his counsel because, he said, of their lack of commitment but he wanted his solicitor to continue and he did not want his legal aid certificate revoked.

The judge refused to adjourn but said that he would amend the legal aid certificate, if he had the power, to provide for solicitor only representation.

On appeal, the question arose as to the effect of what the judge did and said in the light of the 1989 Regulations and the authorities.

In their Lordships' judgment the following principles emerged:

1 There was no power under regulation 44(1) to grant legal aid for representation by a solicitor only (see *R v Mills* (unreported, March 21, 1997)) and in so far as *R v Kirk* ((1982) 76 Cr App R 194) suggested otherwise, their Lordships, unlike the court in *Mills*, were unable to discern any difference between the old section 30(1) in the Legal Aid Act 1974 and the new regulation 44.

That lacuna in the present regulations was to be regretted and the observations of the court in *Mills* were echoed as to the desirability for urgent consideration to be given to an appropriate amendment to the regulations.

2 A judge could only withdraw a legal aid order if all legal representatives withdrew from the case (regulation 50(2)). If only some withdrew the order could not be revoked. That too merited consideration by the Lord Chancellor.

3 A judge could amend a legal aid order by substituting fresh legal representatives for representatives previously assigned (regulation 50(1)) but he had a discretion. He was under no obligation to assign new legal aid representatives or to amend the order simply because the defendant chose to dismiss one or more of his legal representatives.

In *Mills* the judge purported to amend the order to provide for solicitor only representation. In the present case the judge said he amended the certificate only if he had the power to do so. As he had no such power the certificate remained and the appellant continued to be entitled but had chosen to dispense with the services.

4 In some cases it might be necessary for a judge to conduct an inquiry as to why a defendant had dispensed with counsel: see *R v Chambers* (unreported, December 16, 1988); *R v Davies* (*The Times* February 11, 1987) and *R v McAllister* ([1988] Crim LR 380).

Whether such an inquiry was necessary would depend on the circumstances of the case. In the present case the judge was familiar with the circumstances and no further inquiry was, in their Lordships' view, necessary.

5 An irregularity in the trial judge's treatment of a defendant's legal aid representation might lead to the quashing of the conviction, as it did in *Chambers* and *Davies*, but would not necessarily do so, see *R v Dimech* ([1991] Crim LR 846) and would not do so when the result of the trial would inevitably have been the same.

Was the judge justified in refusing an adjournment? It seemed to their Lordships that there was ample material before the judge for him to conclude that the appellant's object in dismissing counsel was to shop around. It was pertinent to note that in connection with his trial and appeal the appellant had been successively represented by a total of seven counsel.

It was apparent that the appellant did not accept advice from counsel which he did not like. Accordingly, even if the judge had exercised his discretion in the appellant's favour the case showed that counsel would have been unlikely to survive.

In the present case, there was no irregularity in relation to the appellant's legal aid. There was no reason to regard the conviction as unsafe since the evidence against him was overwhelming, to the extent that full legal representation could not have been expected to overcome.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Manchester.

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Equities close below best of day

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
460	407½	Allied Domecq†	456½	+ ½	5.9	13.7
520	470	Bulmer (HP)	472½	− 2½	3.9	
75½	44	Burn Stewart	45		9.4	11.2
1040	865	Glenmorangie A†	972½		2.7	24.0
586	425½	Grand Met	621½	+ 15½	3.3	19.8
625	424	Guinness	620½	+ 14½	3.2	17.7
360	321½	Highland Dist	331		3.2	16.5
336	225	Matthew Clark	241		12.4	11.5
109½	52½	Merydew W	67½	− 1	5.8	
1978½	1462½	SA Breweries	1848½	+ 3½	2.0	

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1178½	818½	ABN-AMRO	1087½		2.8	
971	710	Abbey Nat	870½	+ 23	3.7	15.8
655	532½	Alliance & Leic	627½	+ 8	3.2	15.4
525	388½	Allied Irish	526	+ 20½	3.5	14.9
451½	363½	Aus New Z	429½	+ ½	4.4	
4159½	2875	Bank America	3975	− 18½		
438½	291½	Bank Scotland	436	+ 8½	2.3	19.3
1303½	978½	Barclays	1282½	+ 30	3.1	18.0
735½	517½	Bk of Ireland	735½	+ 16	2.8	
7860½	6006½	Citicorp	7461½	− 87½		
1759½	1208½	Commerzbk	1609½		2.8	
862½	559½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	768½	+ 12½	0.8	
3656½	2703½	Deutsche Bk	3578½	+ 37½	1.7	
1131½	750½	Espirito Santo	1103½	− 3½	3.2	
947½	594½	Fuji Bank Y	831½	+ 9½	0.5	
2202	1272½	HSBC	2151	+ 65	2.4	18.8
2119½	1341	HSBC HK	2073½	+ 75	2.5	18.0
783	714	Halifax	760	+ 3½	2.4	22.7
610	489½	Irish Perm	580		2.8	
724½	424	Lloyds TSB	716½	+ 19	2.3	23.2
888½	669½	Nat Aust Bk	839	− 4	4.7	11.9
895½	653½	Nat West	874	+ 21	4.1	13.1
663½	388	Ryl Bk Scotl	642	+ 8	3.8	13.8
1046	881	Stand Chart	1038½	+ 28	1.7	18.5
£164¾	£104¾	Wells Fargo	£164¾		1.9	
374½	315½	Westpac	342½	+ 5	4.2	
373½	291½	Woolwich	300½	+ 1½	3.3	18.8

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	717½	Bass†	858½	+ 9½	3.7	16.1
68½	43½	Bdr for the Bdr	45	− 1	5.1	
205	144½	Burtonwood Brw	148½	+ 2½	4.8	13.4
155½	123	City Centre Rest	128½	+ 1½	2.4	21.3
744½	596	Compass Gp	627½	+ 13	1.8	22.8
305	250	Eldridge P 'A'†	289		2.4	15.9
486	435	Fuller Sm 'A'	442½		2.8	15.4
586	422½	Greenalls Gp	466½	− 1	4.3	11.6
750	642	Greene King†	725	+ 12½	2.8	
237½	164½	Grosvenor Inns	172½	− 2	4.4	18.7
285	216½	Groupe Chez Ger	274½		1.3	26.9
298½	261	Hardy Hanson	271½	+ 3	5.1	32.1
2850	2700	Hall J	2762½		2.7	16.3
78	63½	Inn Business	68	+ 1½	3.0	10.8
357	332	Mansfield†	333½		2.8	
315½	251	Marston Thmps†	275½	+ ½	3.6	
615	515	Morland†	517½		3.1	13.3
266½	210	Old Eng Pub	255½		1.0	32.9
47½	26½	Paramount	30½			
820½	527½	PizzaExpress	621½	+ 2	0.8	40.5
437½	337½	Ramsdens (H)†	377½		1.7	33.4
378½	262½	Regent Inns	275½	+ 11	1.2	26.3
768½	627	Scott & New	760½	+ 14½	3.6	16.1
289	249½	Vaux Group	287½	+ 5	4.7	12.9
1392½	1105	Wetherspoon JD	1367½		0.8	31.0
862½	738½	Whitbread†	862½	+ 12½	3.4	15.9
708½	582	Wolvrhmptn D	592½	− 1	3.7	12.9
531	419½	Yates Bros†	522½		1.0	27.9
702½	615	Young 'A'†	697½		2.7	27.4

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AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
General Acc	803.20	854.50	+ 9.30	2.22
General Inc	665.50	708.00	+ 7.80	2.22
UK Growth Acc	556.60	592.20	+ 6.60	2.15
UK Growth Inc	355.80	378.60	+ 4.20	2.15
Higher Inc Acc	979.90	1042.50	+ 9.00	3.67
Higher Inc Inc	514.00	546.90	+ 4.70	3.67
Gilts/Fxd Inl Acc	220.30	232.70	+ 0.30	5.44
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.07	99.35	+ 0.10	5.44
Nth America	408.90	435.00	+ 5.70	
Europe	438.60	466.60	+ 8.10	
Brit Enndl	111.00	118.10	+ 1.10	2.39
Brit Fedrnts Acc	134.50	143.10	+ 1.00	4.35
Brit Fedrnts Inc	88.63	94.29	+ 0.58	4.35
Global Opps	115.30	122.70	+ 1.20	
Balanced Acc	71.54	76.11		1.98
Balanced Inc	66.12	70.35		1.98
Japan Acc	44.14	46.96	+ 0.29	..
Pac Basin Acc	396.40	421.60	+ 1.20	0.89

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gilts & Fixed Int	135.50	143.80		6.38
High Inc Equity	211.20	225.90†	+ 2.30	4.29
Worldwide Bond	264.60	280.60		3.96
American Growth	485.50	519.30	+ 4.30	0.32
Asian Pacific	342.80	366.60	+ 1.80	0.39
Assets & Earnings	328.10	350.90	+ 1.90	2.66
Euro Capital Acc	236.30	252.70	+ 3.70	0.79
Extra Inc	45.81	48.81†	- 0.17	8.43
General	305.50	325.00	+ 2.30	2.83
Global Opps	81.68	86.89	+ 0.79	0.48
Japan	103.90	110.50	+ 0.30	
Managed Inc	51.34	54.62†	+ 0.05	4.12
Mastertrust	191.00	204.30	+ 0.80	1.09
US Emerging Cos	201.70	215.70	+ 2.50	
Ethical	85.36	90.81†	+ 0.76	2.02
International	153.20	163.00	+ 1.00	0.53
Dividend & Growth	77.93	82.90†	+ 0.77	4.05
Global Gwth & Sec	76.82	82.02	- 0.12	2.46
Latin America	93.17	99.12	- 3.58	0.39
Capital Reserve	149.50	149.60		4.87

ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0141 275 9500

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
H&P UK Growth	106.90	113.70†	+ 1.20	2.04
Equity Income	151.90	167.50	+ 1.70	4.10
Extra Income	290.90	309.40	+ 2.30	5.38
Smaller Cos	104.60	111.20	+ 1.00	1.72
International	132.10	140.50	+ 1.70	1.34

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Small Cos	2367.00	2471.00		

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	159.81	171.84	+ 1.58	0.76
UK Equity	110.47	117.92	+ 1.28	2.98
UK Equity & Bd	63.84	67.67	+ 0.39	5.29
UK Smlr Cos	51.83	55.44	+ 0.02	1.70

CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Inv Fd Inc	882.56	885.90	+ 5.47	3.86
Inv Fd Acc	893.90	907.40	+ 5.53	
Fxd Int Sec Inc	159.76	160.40	- 0.32	8.92
Fxd Int Sec Acc	163.38	164.05	- 0.34	

COIF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Investment Inc	864.45	877.51	- 3.27	3.07
Investment Acc	4117.24	4179.48	- 15.52	
Fixed Int Inc	129.12	139.64	- 0.26	8.65
Fixed Int Acc	251.05	252.05	- 0.50	

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Beckman Intl	89.47	94.29	+ 0.02	5.31
Beck Bio-Tech	37.04	40.25†		
Acorn Ethical Tst	194.79	204.55†		0.45
City Fin Assets	85.03	89.29		1.86
City Fin Intl	95.75	100.55	+ 1.59	0.06
Fdors Hse Cap	334.11	355.44†		2.23
Buckley Wrld Grth	149.47	158.44	- 2.94	
Shaw Utilities	76.43	77.91	+ 0.65	4.47

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Emerging Markets	64.47	68.40	- 0.49	

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0345 772 233

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Gwth	94.07	100.07	+ 1.69	
Dragon Growth	72.81	77.87	- 0.15	0.27
Equity High Inc	107.66	113.92	+ 1.16	3.32
-do- Accum	159.48	168.76	+ 1.73	3.32
Extra Income Inc	27.57	29.03†	+ 0.01	6.55
Extra Income Acc	31.63	33.38	+ 0.01	6.55
European Gwth	80.02	84.68	+ 1.55	0.12
Evergreen	34.06	36.42	+ 0.69	
General Equity	125.92	132.90	+ 1.49	2.43
Japan Growth	45.02	47.89	+ 0.47	
Pedigree Gwth	73.71	78.00	+ 0.92	1.98
Pad Smr Cos Inc	38.78	41.02	- 0.02	1.39
-do- Accum	41.51	43.93	- 0.03	1.39
Retirement Inc #	32.15	34.20	+ 0.36	5.36
Special Sits	52.47	56.42	+ 0.33	2.60
UK & Overseas	70.44	74.54	+ 0.88	0.45

JUPITER UT MGRS LTD
0171 581 3020

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
World Health	201.60	214.40†	+ 4.50	
Income #	243.94	259.51†	+ 1.30	4.00
UK Growth	93.54	99.51†	+ 0.47	1.86
Intl Growth	97.76	104.00	+ 1.39	0.54
Ecology	109.94	116.95	+ 0.71	0.75
European	239.80	255.10†	+ 2.68	0.20
Far Eastern	338.26	360.91†	+ 2.85	
UK Special Sits	60.76	64.81	+ 0.07	0.37
Fd of Inv Tsts	60.12	64.12	+ 0.27	0.53
High Income #	56.77	60.55	+ 0.35	4.62
Financial Opps	49.55	52.85	+ 0.38	

M&G UNIT MANAGERS LTD
Dealing: 01277 391 010 Enq: 01903 204 631

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European Growth	126.44	134.51	+ 2.84	0.19
Intl Bond	60.71	63.77	+ 0.21	3.89
Intl Equity Growth	97.82	103.91	+ 1.44	0.48
N Amer Growth	165.37	175.41	+ 2.86	0.56
Special Sits Growth	32.43	34.50	+ 0.30	2.05
UK Growth	540.68	575.19	+ 5.59	2.47
-do- Accum	754.20	802.33	+ 7.79	2.47

MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD
01620 825867

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Fd #	1543.50	1565.00		2.70
Income #	1120.60	1137.80†		4.30

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Bond Income	104.60	108.10†	- 0.10	6.56
Euro Pmy Inc	121.40	128.10†	+ 1.40	2.75
-do- Accum	121.70	129.50†	+ 1.60	2.75
Gilt Yield	122.80	129.50†	+ 0.30	6.25
Global Income	258.20	274.70	+ 2.90	2.92
High Yield	194.60	207.00†	+ 2.70	4.50
-do- Accum	662.80	705.10†	+ 9.50	4.50
Money Market	100.49	100.49†	+ 0.02	5.90
Smllr Cos Dev	63.94	68.02	+ 0.20	3.00
Tomorrows Co Ex Acc	1137.00	1154.00†	+ 11.00	

Capital Growth Trusts

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amer Smllr Cos	183.00	194.70	+ 2.70	

MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 222 4242

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Maldon General	185.90	189.80†		3.63

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD
0800 363432

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
High Inc #	101.20	104.30	+ 0.40	6.26
M & S Inv Ptflo	302.00	208.20†	+ 2.10	2.25
-do- Accum	244.70	252.30†	+ 2.60	2.25
UK Sel Ptflo	186.50	192.20†	+ 2.30	2.17
-do- Accum	229.40	236.50†	+ 2.90	2.17
UK 100 Cos	147.50	147.50	+ 2.10	2.27
-do- Accum	151.20	151.20	+ 2.20	2.27

MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD
01204 384 842

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pens Growth	120.65	120.66†		
Pens Inc Pstfol	106.60	106.90†		..
UK Index Tracking @	156.63	156.63	+ 1.74	2.46

WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0131 631 7465

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Australasian Gold	18.33	19.29	- 1.11	
Pacific Basin	41.50	43.68	+ 0.26	
Global Bond (US$)	0.9442	0.9835†	- 0.0035	..
Penny Share	45.13	47.51†	- 0.29	..
Japan Smlr Cos	38.22	40.23	- 0.34	..

WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 623 2444

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Short Dtd Gilt	127.90	129.30		..
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.8031	0.8116	- 0.01	
Gilt Income	51.74	52.56†	- 0.09	6.20
Gilt Growth	81.90	83.10	- 0.06	
Sterling Bond	50.16	51.01	- 0.03	6.80

WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0181 298 4900

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Mgd	63.78	67.73		1.75
UK Stockmarket	119.50	127.09		2.21
Corporate Bd Inc	50.20	50.31		6.24
Do Accum	53.13	53.25		6.24

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge

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My, T-Rex, what blunted teeth you have

In *The Lost World*, Spielberg returns to his primeval cash cow. **Geoff Brown** is glad when the journey is over

Four years ago, *Jurassic Park* caused mouths to drop, teeth to clench and knuckles to whiten. Computer-generated dinosaurs stampeded across the screen, crushing and chewing human beings and props. The film gave audiences some of the thrills that Roman crowds must have felt watching Christians thrown to the lions.

Similar stampedes occur in **The Lost World: Jurassic Park**, but the effect is different. Been there, done that. One almost yawns.

Partly, this is the price paid by Steven Spielberg, the novelist Michael Crichton, and their crew for relying so much on special effects at the expense of stories and characters. No technology stands still in Hollywood, least of all the business of computer-generated images. So the dinosaur line-up — among them the mighty Tyrannosaurus Rex, the nasty velociraptor, and the compsognathus, a pint-sized nuisance — is paraded and juggled with even greater ingenuity than before.

But the intervening years of imitative, inferior product have removed the creatures' novelty. The excitement gone, we are left to contemplate the script's bare bones, and await the rustle in the tree tops or thundering foot that indicates carnage ahead. There is also time to contemplate the roundabout of Spielberg's career, which spins from *Schindler's List*, in praise of the survival instinct, to a film that lusts for its characters' death.

So who are the humans fed to the dinosaurs engineered on a Costa Rican island close to the original Jurassic Park site? Lord Attenborough, as the theme park's deviser John Hammond, takes a back seat, having lost control of his InGen corporation (along with all trace of his Scottish accent). But Jeff Goldblum returns as Ian Malcolm, the quirky chaos mathematician upgraded from comic commentator to leading man.

"People shouldn't be where dinosaurs are," he muses. Yet he puts himself in the line of fire to document the dinosaurs left to run wild after a hurricane destroyed the scientists' base. He has sentimental reasons among others: palaeontologist girlfriend Julianne Moore is on the spot, a dinosaur's meal in waiting.

There are other newcomers sitting pretty: Goldblum's stowaway daughter (mulatto, to suit PC requirements), InGen functionaries and the ubiquitous Pete Postlethwaite as a big-game hunter hired to catch species for a new theme park in San Diego. Sophisticated acting is neither required nor supplied. These people exist only to be menaced, chased through foliage, pushed off a cliff, or ripped to pieces.

Spielberg can engineer shocks with the best, and knows all about the sentimental potential of a wounded baby T-Rex, bandaged by doting humans. But the monotony remains considerable, and one heaves a sigh when the *Lost World* cast, T-Rex and all, flies back to America for a finale heavily dependent on *King Kong*. At least the scenery is different: suburban homes, city streets, the classic Hollywood background for a monster running amok.

But even here the mayhem fails to lift this blockbuster far off the ground. Like too many movies, *The Lost World* is no living organism, but a machine, factory-assembled from existing blueprints and duplicate parts. Those who settle into their seats with high expectations and a bucket of popcorn may well get caught up in its cogs and wheels. But under the high-tech surface so much of the film is routine that even rabid *Jurassic* fans might begin to recognise dinosaurs' limitations as movie stars: seen one, you've seen them all.

The Lost World appears to have frightened off other films this week. Even the latest Disney revival is one of the master's lesser works. **Lady and the Tramp**, the studio's first CinemaScope cartoon, released in 1955, has plenty of charm of a wan, cloying kind, but little humour or action. People tend to remember details — the dogs chewing different ends of the same string of spaghetti — but struggle to recall the plot.

The plot fades from the memory even as you watch: was it something about a roving mongrel who comes to the aid of a pedigree spaniel left to the mercies of a nasty aunt while her owners are away? The setting is a period one (early this century, in New England), although no benefit comes from that.

At least the best songs are recognisable. *Bella Notte* sing the owner and cook at Tony's Italian restaurant as Lady and Tramp buckle down to spaghetti, meat balls and romance. Two Siamese cats, voiced by Peggy Lee, who co-wrote the songs, warble *We are Siamese if you Please* as they mess up the house and pin the blame on Lady. The animation is prosaic at times, but moves on to a higher plane for the climactic scenes of the city at night, when the Dog Catcher's wagon is chased in the dim moonlight across muddy streets.

As for the characters, whether human or canine, they lack edge. Ladylike Lady and the roguish Tramp make insipid heroes. Stan Freberg's voice makes hay with the Beaver, enrolled by Tramp to free Lady's muzzle, but the Dog Catcher — a figure of comic evil in the later *One Hundred and One Dalmatians* — is an opportunity missed. Lady's owners spend most of the movie out of town: just as well, some might say, since their names are Darling and Jim Dear. The whole concoction is tuneful and well-proportioned; adults and streetwise children, however, will be twiddling their thumbs.

Thirty years ago, Michael Frayn wrote a television play called *Jamie, On a Flying Visit*, in which Jamie, a rich social gadfly, suddenly looks up a college girlfriend trapped in marriage and suburban routine. The dust blown off, the contents reworked, the play has become **Remember Me?**, a lukewarm low-budget comedy financed by Channel 4. The old boyfriend (Robert Lindsay) still disrupts suburbia — West Byfleet, in outer London — but this time he is skint, with a shady past and hitmen on his trail.

The British supposedly are good at comedies: this one was filmed, in part, at Ealing Studios. But you expect more than scattered chuckles from the man who wrote *Noises Off* and the film *Clockwise*. The farce machinery is all in place: comings and goings through doors, imagined improprieties in bedrooms and bathrooms. The energy to set it in motion is not. Maybe the characters are too crippled by the feelings of waste and disillusionment that Frayn, the thinking person's farceur, piles on their shoulders. Lorna and Ian, the suburban couple (Imelda Staunton and Rik Mayall), are struggling for every penny, while Lindsay's polished exterior and Rolls-Royce hide exquisite desperation. The direction of Nick Hurran adds to the weight of doom: he lets scenes sag while spending time draping exteriors of the semi-detached house in fancy shots best suited to Dracula's headquarters.

The cast of familiar faces buckles down to the task, looking harassed, bemused or frantic while rattling off Frayn's concise dialogue. But compared to Frayn's theatrical successes or Mike Leigh's comedies of middle-class life, *Remember Me?* is something no one is likely to remember for long.

Spanish-language comedies set in London housing estates do not come one's way often, so for novelty's sake alone the welcome mat should be put out for **The Butterfly Effect**. The director, Fernando Colombo, is known locally for his comedies and, despite the London setting — one of the characters is a student at the London School of Economics — he seems not to have banked on any international audience for this thinly amiable affair.

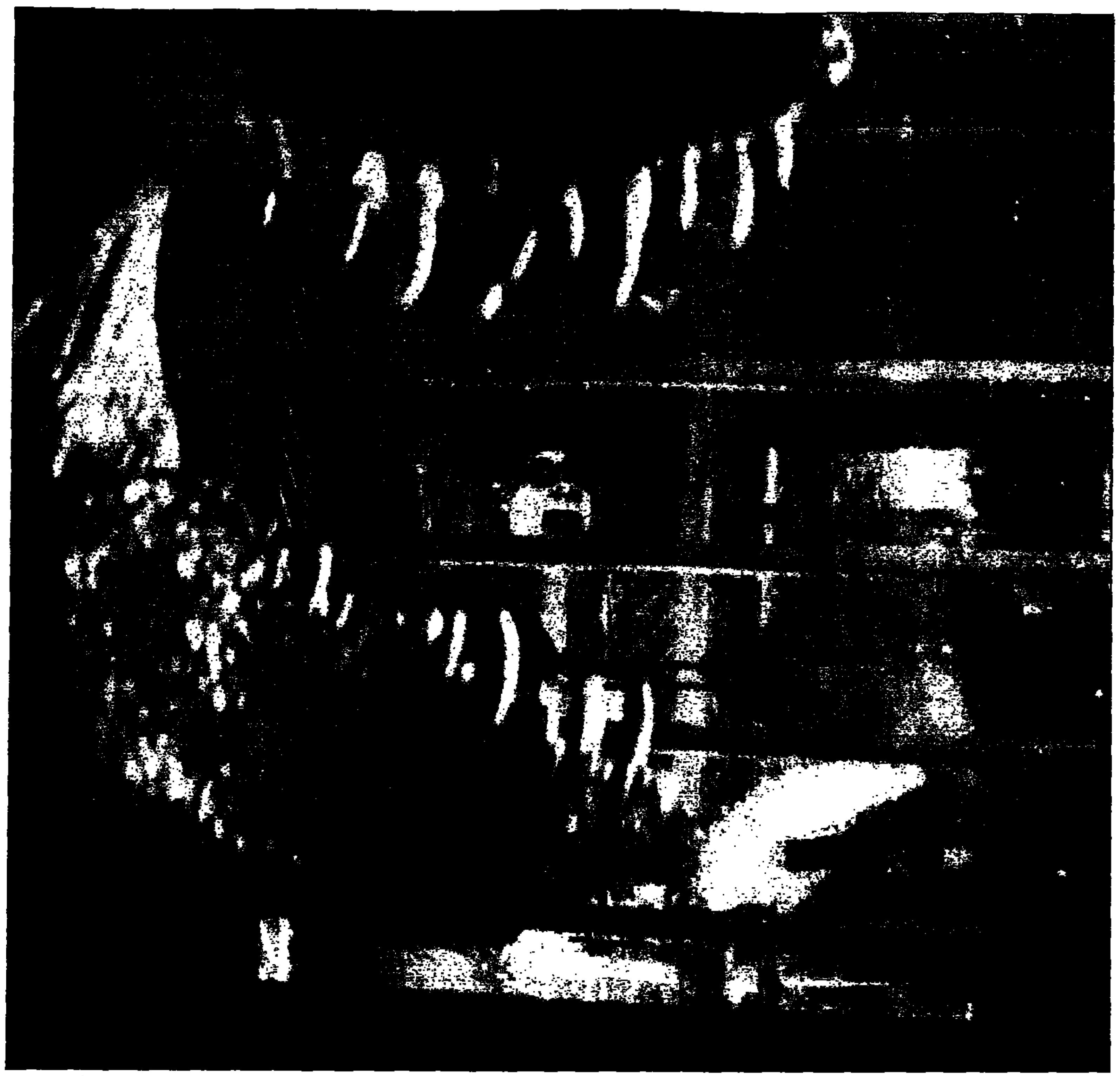
Luis (rock singer Coque Malla) is the straitlaced LSE student who unbuttons sufficiently to bed his aunt (Maria Barranco, one of Almodóvar's *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*). Mother, meanwhile, fleeing trouble in Madrid, lands in the arms of the English neighbour, a *Star Trek* freak (dependable James Fleet). Once in a while characters address the camera about the chaos theory; but any philosophy or cultural insights make little headway among the hanky-panky.

The Lost World: Jurassic Park
Empire, PG, 129 mins
Routine return of the dinosaurs

Lady and the Tramp
Warner West End
U, 76 mins
Mildly enjoyable Disney revival

Remember Me?
National Film Theatre
PG, 81 mins
Lukewarm farce from Michael Frayn

The Butterfly Effect
ABC Swiss Centre
12, 109 mins
Continental high jinks come to south London



"People shouldn't be where dinosaurs are," muses Jeff Goldblum (right). Tyrannosaurus Rex adds weight to his words in *The Lost World*

'Mouthwatering'

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases . . .

SNAP VERDICT

☐ ***THE LOST WORLD***

Damian Samuels, 20: A film of epic proportions that quite frankly knocked my socks off.

Tim Thornton, 21: Pure mouthwatering, entertaining value for money.

Leslie Isaiah Thomas, 18: You don't perhaps expect deep, complex characterisation, but Julianne Moore managed it.

Sarah Crook, 18: The most enjoyable film of the year.

☐ ***LADY AND THE TRAMP***

Damian: Not the best from Disney, but all the same it leaves you panting for more.

Tim: Anyone under ten will lap it up.

Leslie: You'd be barking mad to miss it.

Sarah: I was deeply touched by its innocence.

☐ ***THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT***

Damian: Watch out for the witty bingo scene.

Tim: A groovy little comedy.

Leslie: An average comedy.

Sarah: An excellent performance from James Fleet.

Riding the crest of a new Irish wave

Luke Clancy picks the highlights from Galway's film feast

Irish film-makers seem finally to have found the confidence to do without the stories of sectarian strife, country life and coming of age which for too long have been their mainstays. Fresh subject-matter was so noticeable at this year's Galway Film Fleadh that there were guarded mentions of a "new wave of Irish film-making", with one director even offering a Gaelic neologism, "Nuascannán", which brusquely translates as "new film".

Laid out at the Fleadh, undoubtedly the premier harvest festival for Irish film, was an impressive range of movies. Offerings ranged from the first film made by an Irish director at Roger Corman's West of Ireland studios, a meat-and-two-veg exploitation movie called *Criminal Affair*, to Tom Collins's languorous Derry tearjerker, *Bogwoman*, a kind of *Distant Voices, Still Lives* with petrol bombs.

Back in the old film world, or "Seanscannán" (two can play at the neologism game), the Film Fleadh's Neil Jordan retrospective took in ten films, from 1982's *Angel*, featuring Stephen Rea, right up to the world premiere of his latest, an adaptation of Patrick McCabe's *The Butcher Boy*, also featuring Rea.

In the latter, set in Fifties Ireland, the always wilful Francie Brady (played by the child actor Eamonn Owens) is not dealing at all well with the death of his mother and father, nor the desertion of his best friend. He withdraws further and further into an imaginary world, until he begins to act out the vicious fantasies of comic books and pulp TV on his schoolmates and neighbours.

Jordan pulls off the difficult trick of translating the book's sprightly, unhinged interior monologue into cinema by way of some appealing voice-over work from Rea, who also helps out as Francie's troubled musician father.

This is one of Jordan's quieter, smaller Irish pictures. The director finds roles for Brendan Gleeson, Sean Hughes, Ardal O'Hanlon, Fiona Shaw, Rosaleen Linehan, and even Sinéad O'Connor as a decidedly untrustworthy Virgin Mary.

If Jordan has been scrupulous about spreading the work among a large Irish cast, one actor seems determined to do the work of ten. Brian F. O'Byrne, who gathered a large sheaf of excited reviews for the roles he played in all three parts of the Druid Theatre's production of Martin McDonagh's Leenane trilogy, seems to have been absent from remarkably few Irish film sets this year.

O'Byrne is the lonely provincial guesthouse keeper at the centre of *The Fifth Province*, the first feature from Frank Stapleton, a gently handled, playful movie about films and storytelling. Timmy (O'Byrne) is nagged by his mysterious mother, misunderstood by his alcoholic birdwatching shrink (Ian Richardson) and pursued by a disturbed European film-script doctor, played with relish by Lia Williams.

O'Byrne also hops aboard Johnny Gogan's enjoyable punk nostalgia story, *The Last Bus Home*, playing the Geldofesque lead singer of aspiring snot and feedback superstars, The Dead Patriots.

There has, of course, been some cultural activity in Ireland lately that did not feature O'Byrne. Graham Jones's *How to Cheat in the Leaving Certificate* has a cast of young actors and was put together with the assistance of schoolchildren throughout Ireland, many of whom were happy to respond to the director's request for a contribution of £1 towards its making. For their 100 pence the kids get a neat, tense, low-budget black and white heist movie that delivers an unexpected moral punch.

Not everyone who put money behind this year's Irish film crop received nearly such impressive rewards. On the roll of dishonour were the stalled Mia Farrow vehicle, *Angela Mooney Dies Again*, a sloppy and eventually shambolic would-be allegory of contemporary Ireland. Another equally mistaken venture was *Snakes and Ladders*. Directed by Trish McAdam and set among a group of whineysomething Dubliners, McAdam's film offers a rough rebuke to all those who want to make films while having next to nothing worth saying, and little better than ham-fisted cinematic language in which to say it. Why or how the Irish Film Board involved itself in such a complacent effort is hard to figure.

> ‘For £1 each the children got a neat movie with a moral punch’

NEW ON VIDEO

Space worth watching

■ DARK STAR
Fabulous, PG, 1974

MADE just before science fiction films grew top-heavy with special effects and self-importance, John Carpenter's wonderful comedy about spaced-out spacemen cursed with a troublesome ship bounces along with absurd humour, economical set designs and old-style élan. Carpenter began work on it as a film school project; after it, the big time beckoned.

■ BOUND
Fox Guild, 18, 1996

TWO screenwriting brothers turned directors, Larry and Andy Wachowski, make a flashy bid for cult status with this brazen movie that tries to disguise a standard, grubby thriller about gangsters, molls and Mafia money with fancy close-ups, designer violence, and the posturings of two sultry lesbians. Attention may be grabbed for a time by the Wachowskis' cheek, as well as Jennifer Tilly and Gina Gershon checking out each other's tattoos. But not for long. Available to rent.

■ DRACULA: DEAD AND LOVING IT
PolyGram, PG, 1996

TIME and fashion has passed Mel Brooks's burlesque comedy by, but the maestro does not seem to have noticed. This is his latest attempt to recapture the glory days of *Blazing Saddles*. Leslie Nielsen, dressed in a fruity white wig, is the blundering bloodsucking hero, who falls downstairs on his first appearance. Marginally better than its predecessor, *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*, although the heavy humour and ponderous cutting still make the film seem an antique. A rental release.

■ MOTHER NIGHT
Entertainment, 15, 1996

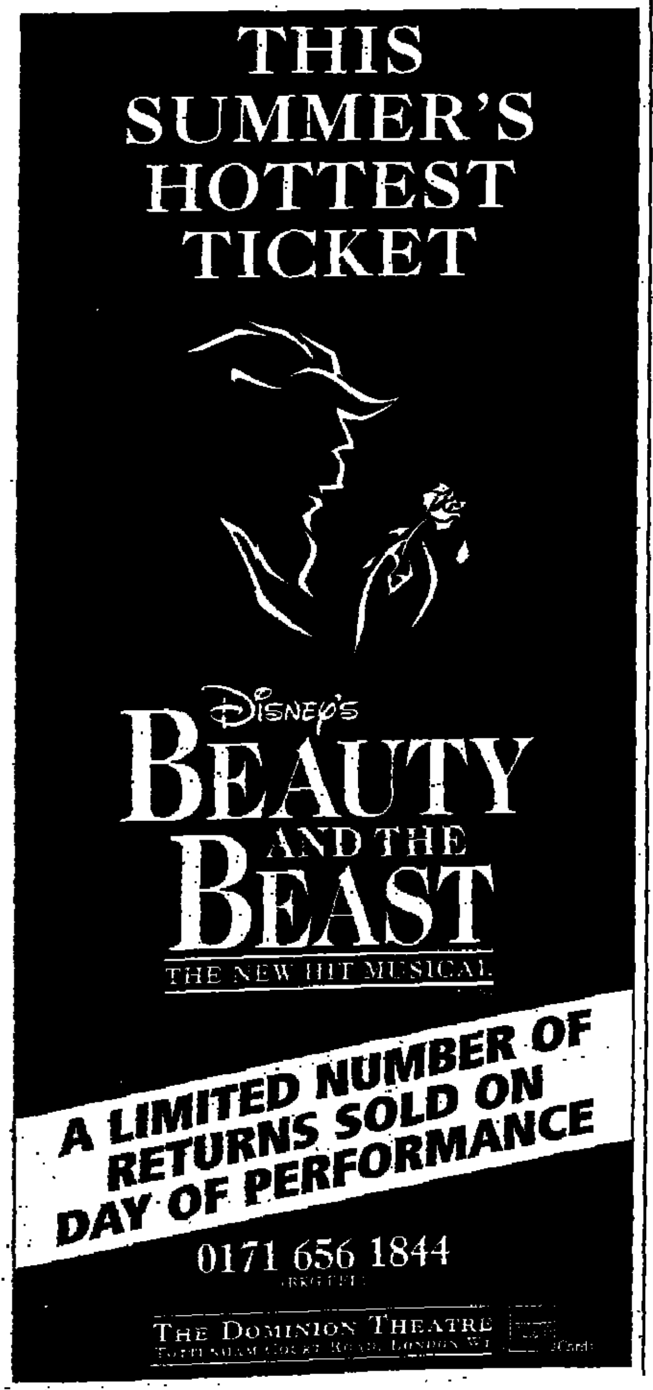
ABSORBING adaptation of Kurt Vonnegut Jr's novel, with Nick Nolte as an American writer in the 1930s who agrees to masquerade as a Nazi sympathiser and pays the consequences after the war. Director Keith Gordon does nothing to ease us over the jolting shifts from comedy to drama, but he still treats his difficult material carefully, and draws the best from his cast. Nolte is excellent: John Goodman, Sheryl Lee and Alan Arkin also stand out in Vonnegut's parade of devious humanity. Available to rent.

Mel Gibson leaps into action in the hit thriller *Ransom*

■ RANSOM
Buena Vista, 18, 1996

MEL GIBSON'S millionaire airline boss finds his son kidnapped by Gary Sinise, and goes on TV to offer a fat reward for the kidnapper's head. The script, derived from a TV play and film from the mid-1950s, gives the main characters lots of shading, and the director, Ron Howard, knows enough to hire actors alert to subtleties. Tension sags halfway through, then the play of character and psychology puts the film back on track. Available to rent.

GEOFF BROWN



THIS SUMMER'S HOTTEST TICKET

DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
THE NEW HIT MUSICAL

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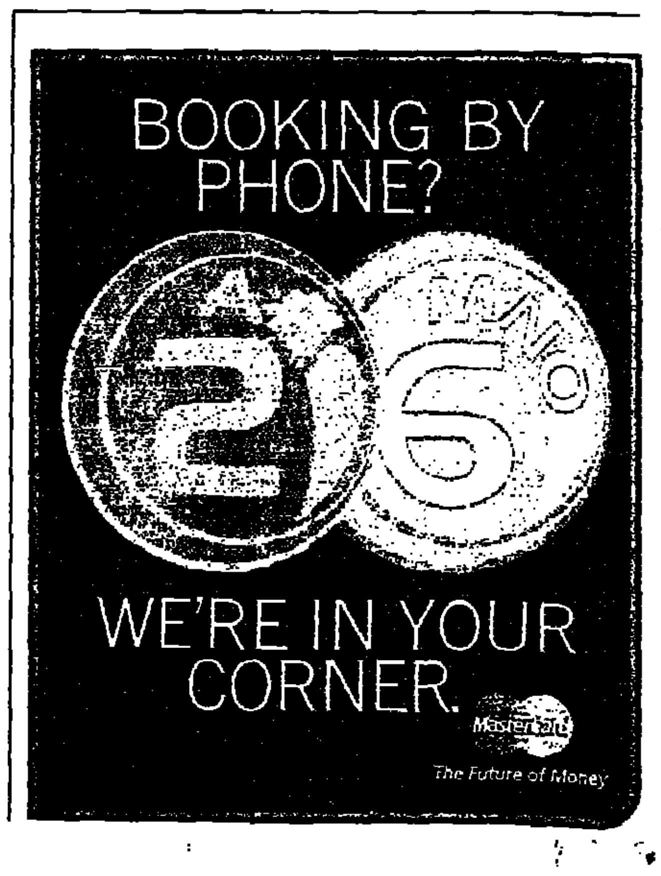

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TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

ALMEIDA OPERA: The contemporary opera showcase continues with the British premiere of Helmut Oehring's *Dokumentation 1*, an original piece of music theatre exploring deafness. The work fuses rock, jazz, classical and contemporary music.
Almeida Theatre, 108 Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Tonight and tomorrow, 8pm Ⓢ

ROMAN BRITAIN: Archaeological treasures dating back to the Roman occupation of Britain will be on display for the first time in the magnificent new Weston Gallery which opens today.
British Museum, Great Russell Street, WC1 (0171-636 1555). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, 10.30am-6pm Ⓢ

THE LEENANE TRILOGY. Family life is no comfy bed of shamrock in the Connemara village of Martin McDonagh's trilogy: a mother from hell and her desperate daughter (*The Beauty Queen of Leenane*), first seen in London last year; marital secrets revealed in the cemetery (*A Skull in Connemara*), a pair of squabbling brothers living alone in their dead father's house (*The Lonesome West*). Garry Hynes directs.
Royal Court (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8pm. Trilogy on Sat. *Beauty*, 1pm; *Skull*, 4pm, *Lonesome*, 8pm

JUST BRECHT: After a successful run at Hampstead's New End Theatre the German actress Eva Meir brings a programme of poems and songs by her compatriot, Bertolt Brecht, to Islington for a three-week run. Accompanied on the piano by the young Irish pianist Conor Linehan, she sings many of the dramatist's famous songs set to music by Kurt Weill and Hans Eisler.
King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Opens tonight, 8pm Ⓢ

ELSEWHERE

EXETER: The **Nash Ensemble** pays a visit to the Exeter Festival, treating audiences to an evening of mellifluous sounds. On the programme are works by Mozart, Reportz, Debussy, Beethoven and Francaix.
Church of the Holy Cross, Crediton (01392 499123). 7.30pm.

FORT WILLIAM: Scottish Ballet ends its four-week tour of Scotland here tonight. The evening includes a performance of Lorna Scott's new piece **Tam O'Shanter**, based on Robert Burns's poem, and **Vespri**, influenced by Verdi's opera *I Vespri Siciliani*.
Marco's An Aird (01397 700707). 7.30pm.

The rock duo Orbital play the Phoenix Festival

KENT: Bring a picnic and something to sit on for an evening of magic as Opera Bravo gives the first of three performances here of Verdi's masterpiece, **La Traviata**. The intimacy of one of England's most romantic gardens forms the perfect setting for Nicholas Bone's new production.
Scotney Castle, Lamberhurst, Tunbridge Wells (01892 891001). Tonight, Sat and July 25, 7.30pm

WARWICKSHIRE: One of the high points in the summer rock diary, the **Phoenix Festival** opens its gates today. Artists representing a wide range of styles will feature on eight stages, with one separate stage entirely devoted to comedy. Sinead O'Connor, Jamiroquai, Orbital and David Bowie are just a few of the big names lined up to perform during this four-day extravaganza.
Long Marston, near Stratford-upon-Avon (0541 500 044). Ends Sun

LONDON GALLERIES

British Library Galleries: Designer Bookbinders (0171-323 7111) . **Design Museum:** The Power of Erotic Design (0171-378 6055) **Dulwich Picture:** Stephen Cox (0181-693 5254) . **Karsten Schubert:** Eadweard Muybridge (0171-631 0031) . **Leighton House:** The Leighton Open (0171-602 3316) . **Lisson:** Jason Martin (0171-724 2739) **National:** Seurat and the Bathers (0171-747 2885) . **Robert Prime**, Lothar Hempel (0171-916 6366) . **Tate:** Ellsworth Kelly (0171-887 8000) **Whitechapel:** Cathy de Monchaux (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **ALWAYS**: Believe it or not, the King and Mrs Simpson story set to music. That alarming noise is Queen Mary howling in her grave.
Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, W1 (0171-834 1317). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ **ART**: Henry Goodman, Roger Allam and Stanley Townsend in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm

☐ **THE BLUE GARDEN**: Ted Craig directs Jan Waters and Amanda Mealing in a new play by Peter Moffat, author of *Iona Rain*, set in a famously blue garden in 1940 to which a refugee from Europe comes for shelter.
Warehouse, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (0181-680 4060). Tue, 6.30pm, Wed-Sat, 8pm. Sun, 5pm. Until July 27

☐ **THE HERBAL BED**: Peter Whelan's fascinating play. Kate Duchêne plays Shakespeare's daughter and Christopher Hunter her Puritan inquisitor.
Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

☐ **KING LEAR**: Kathryn Hunter goes where no English-speaking actress has gone before: into the title role of Shakespeare's suffering monarch in a modern-dress, visionary production by Helena Kaut-Howson.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 7pm; mats Sat, 2pm.

☐ **MARLENE**: Siân Phillips gives an attractive performance as the singer with the golden sheath dress. More successful than Pam Gems's play.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

■ **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**: Rachel Kavanaugh's delightful production, alert to the comedy and the mystery. Edwardian costumes.
Open Air, Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats, various dates on Wed, Thurs, Sat. In rep with *All's Well That Ends Well*

◪ **POPCORN**: Ben Elton's blistering comedy about movie violence. A Tarantinoesque director gets his come-uppance when a couple of serial killers (great playing by Patrick O'Kane and Dena Davis) blame him for their misdeeds. Laurence Boswell directs.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 4pm

☐ **THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES**: Peter Bowles both touching and comic as Molière's deluded hero. Paul Daniels as his flicker-fingered servant. Directed by Peter Hall.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm. Until July 26

☐ **SHE KNOWS YOU KNOW!**: The story of Hylda Baker, music hall star but (putting it mildly) a difficult woman, written and performed by Jean Fergusson, the bike-riding Marina of *Last of the Summer Wine*.
Bridewell, Bride Lane, off Fleet Street, EC4 (0171-936 3456). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sun, 3.30pm. Until July 22

☐ **SKYLIGHT**: David Hare's witty and cogent play showing two moralities at odds, either the worldly-wise opposed to the idealistic, or perhaps the cynical matching the deluded.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

◪ **WAITING FOR GODOT**: Peter Hall, who directed the British premiere in 1955, directs Alan Howard and Ben Kingsley in a revival of Beckett's first and finest drama.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 2651). Tonight, 7.30pm. In rep

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . ☐ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800) . ◪ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Criterion (0171-369 1737) ◪ **Grease**: Cambridge (0171-494 5080) . . ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **GET ON THE BUS** (15): African American males travel to Washington DC for the Million Man March. Contentious movie from Spike Lee.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **MURDER AT 1600** (15): Wesley Snipes solves a White House murder. Silly thriller, with Diane Lane. Director, Dwight Little.
Odeon Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

SELECT HOTEL (18): Grim, sometimes touching, tale of Paris flophouse life. Director, Laurent Bouhnik.
ABC Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470) **ICA** Ⓢ (0171-930 3647)

SOMEONE ELSE'S AMERICA (15): Whimsical adventures of immigrants in Brooklyn, with Tom Conti and Miki Manojlovic. Director, Goran Paskaljevic.
Metro (0171-437 0757)

◆ **SWINGERS** (15): Foibles and fumblings of male twentysomethings in LA. Fresh independent movie from Doug Liman, written by lead actor Jon Favreau.
Gate Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

THINNER (18): Tedious and unpleasant version of Stephen King's story about an attorney fighting a gypsy curse. With Robert John Burke.
Warner Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **UNFORGETTABLE** (15): Mis-titled thriller with Ray Liotta and Linda Fiorentino. Director, John Dahl.
Virgin Haymarket (0171-839 1527)

CURRENT

◆ **CRASH** (18): David Cronenberg explores the connection between car crashes and sex. Chilly exercise in perversity from J G Ballard's novel. With James Spader and Holly Hunter.
ABCs: Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148)

◆ **THE DEVIL'S OWN** (15): New York cop Harrison Ford unwittingly shelters Brad Pitt's IRA terrorist. Foolish drama, directed by Alan J. Pakula.
Odeons: Haymarket (0181-315 4212) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE ENGLISH PATIENT** (15): Map-making Ralph Fiennes smoulders with passion for Kristin Scott Thomas. Epic, intelligent, though not quite worth all the praise. Director, Anthony Minghella.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Plaza** (0990-888 990) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE FIFTH ELEMENT** (PG): Flabby sci-fi epic from Luc Besson, with Bruce Willis as the taxi-driver who might save the world.
Empire (0990 888990) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **ONE FINE DAY** (15): Two single parents juggle kids and careers. Beguiling comedy with George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

WHEN WE WERE KINGS (PG): Joyous Oscar-winning portrait of the boxer Muhammad Ali, as he fights George Foreman in 1974. Director, Leon Gast.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO + JULIET (12): Effervescent contemporary treatment, with Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes as the star-crossed lovers. Director, Baz Luhrmann.
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (0181-315 4215) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

Old boy network

MARILYN KINGWELL

All decked out: Liliane Montevecci is terrific as a crooner swathed in jungle prints

Divorce Me, Darling
Chichester

Back in 1953 the hero and heroine of Sandy Wilson's *Boy Friend* sang that all they wanted was a wee nest in WC1: "I'll be sitting, and I'll be knitting, and so contented we'll be, in our dear little room in Bloomsbury." Well, 12 years later the same composer-librettist brought back the same characters in another musical and suggested that marriage and money had spoilt things. There is not a lot of sitting and certainly no knitting in *Divorce Me, Darling*. Instead, there is the hint of a brush with the ghost of a thought of adultery amid the curly stairs, tubular columns and Art Deco palm trees of the Hotel Paradis, Nice.

I am a fan of *The Boy Friend*. Given a drink too many, I can intone impressive chunks of *A Room in Bloomsbury*, *It's Never Too Late to Fall in Love*, and *Fancy Forgetting*. But even Paul Kerryson's splendidly lively, colourful revival failed to convince me that the sequel matches the original as 1920s pastiche or, for that matter, as anything except an excuse for energetic singing and dancing. The problem, I think, is that where there should be a plot there are multiple holes.

Hole one contains Ruthie Henshall's Polly and Tim Flavin's Bobby, old chums temporarily escaping their busy, distracted spouses. There is a smile, an offstage dinner, a glass of champagne on balconies that, *Private Lives*-style, happen to be next to each other; but nothing "silly". Then her husband and his wife unexpectedly materialise in the forms of Andrew Halliday and Rosemarie Ford. You wait for the inevitable misunderstandings to deepen — after all, look at the title — but they evaporate in a couple of twinklings and all is joy again. You must not expect marital disillusion or ennui from *Divorce Me, Darling*.

So what can you expect? Well, more dramatic holes. Three soubrettes on a spree turn up, followed by three husbands who think their wives are in England and are themselves on the razzle; but that leads nowhere. The hotel manager gets off with his receptionist. Tony's sister does ditto with a blimp called ffotherington-ffitch. Sailors flirt with sailorettes, as does a maid with a waiter. So much cursory, unmotivated love-play occurs that if the Chichester ushers had jumped onstage and started canoodling with the box-office staff, we would not have been surprised.

That's by no means all. Joan Savage inexplicably struts onstage, wearing a Girl Scout uniform, trailing a hapless husband, and doing a cheery imitation of Wodehouse's fascist Spode. Peter Edbrook appears in cinema-commissionaire garb as the President of Monomania, and there is some hanky-panky involving him and Polly's Dad, who is a Mr Brown disguised as a Mr Jones and the husband of a nightclub singer called Madame K; but this particular hole is so inscrutable that 100 Yorkshire miners could not penetrate it.

Yes, the evening is fun. Yes, Henshall is sweet, Flavin debonaire, Ford feisty, and Liliane Montevecci terrific as a crooner swathed in a snakeskin of jungle orange-and-green. And, yes, David Needham's choreography must be as good as any ever seen at Chichester, culminating as it does in a great swirl called *Swing Time is Here to Stay*. But Sandy Wilson was more hummable, comprehensible and touching in *The Boy Friend*. That is still likely to be reckoned his masterpiece.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

A sermon to the converted

Fairy Tales
Drill Hall

When I were a lad the rainbow had seven colours but somewhere in the past 20 years the colour indigo dropped out and left us all with six. Perhaps it was C&A which pioneered this economy version but nowadays the six-colour icon, generally shown in parallel stripes, is the badge of Gay Pride. Sorry: Gay and Lesbian Pride. Sorry again: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride. Pride for short.

This sweet-flavoured "musical celebration" by Eric Lane Barnes, a success in Chicago and Greenwich Village, escorts us through some of the experiences of being lesbian and gay. Bi's and transgenders find a mention only in passing, and though the emotions darken and deepen in the second half the pervading tone is calculated, too obviously, to please and charm.

Look at us, the five personable singers seem to be saying: we just want to love, just want to tell our folks about our lovers, just don't want to be hit by homophobes. Audiences coming to this show, whether gay, lesbian et al on the one hand, or "breeders" on the other, will be endorsing those basic rights. The show is preaching to the converted.

Yet at the same time the songs present sentiments and behaviour as pure as the six stripes radiating from a point above the singers' heads, as though they are appealing for our approval. "I'm looking for Mr Right not Mr Right Away" sings Jason Nolan, nicely expressing his hope for true love. Barnes finds a neat rhyme for the 50th State of the Union, when Nicholas Pound dances on with flowers around his neck to explain that "We're open-minded and that's why we / Don't give a hula if you're gay."

Julia Early and Rachel Spry make a cosily witty double-act and, by contrast, Gareth Snook expresses eloquent tenderness in the exquisite song of parting, *Hummingbird*.

Only Christians of the Burn-a-Fag-for-Jesus sects make Barnes angry, but even their offences are contained within the privacy of a family mourning the death of a son "misled" — the usual twaddle — by older men. Ken Caswell's direction is decent enough, and the sight of a gentle cowboy fanning himself with his hat is a masterstroke. But I wanted more aggression, more in-your-face coarseness. In a word, more indigo.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Meeting a new master

DANCE

GEORGE BALANCHINE was arguably the single most important ballet choreographer of the 20th century. He was Russian by birth and a product of St Petersburg's Imperial ballet tradition. But it was the West which made him the towering figure he became, and surely Balanchine would not have been Balanchine if he had stayed at home.

To see the Kirov dance Balanchine, which they have recently started to do, is to see the inheritors of his St Petersburg Classicism meet head-on the Neo-Classicism of his exile. It is important for the Russians to wake up to Balanchine and all that he implies, but it is not yet a happy relationship.

Symphony in C (set to Bizet) is one of the greatest of all Balanchine works. Created in 1947 for the Paris Opera, it is an exorbitant display of classical dance, dazzlingly grand in its manner and breathtakingly symmetrical in its architecture. Grandeur and symmetry are second nature to Kirov dancers; what is not in their blood is the speed and incisiveness that Balanchine's language demands. Today's Kirov legs are not strong enough, their feet not sharp enough for Balanchine. Phrases are fudged, and the dancers do not have the time to enjoy what should be a sparkling virtuosity.

Of the four ballerinas on Tuesday night — one assigned to each movement — Uliana Lopatkina was well suited to the dreaminess of the second movement, while the third movement's Diana Vishneva — one of the very best of the new breed — was the only one who understood that as much as Balanchine was looking backward in *Symphony in C*, he was looking forward too.

The Russians are on safer ground with *Giselle*. On Tuesday night the Wilis of Act II were absolutely stunning, a riveting supernatural vision luminescent in the moonlight. The principals, however, let the side down. Yulia Makhalina is a dreary and unmusical Giselle, with no muscular or emotional oomph to her dancing. And her mad scene was crassly ineffectual — acting with a capital A.

There are still moments when you can see what a gorgeous stylist Farouk Ruzimatov is, although there are many more moments when you can see how he slips in and out of character. His Albrecht began well, but it wasn't long before his two-timing Count forgot which story he was supposed to be telling.

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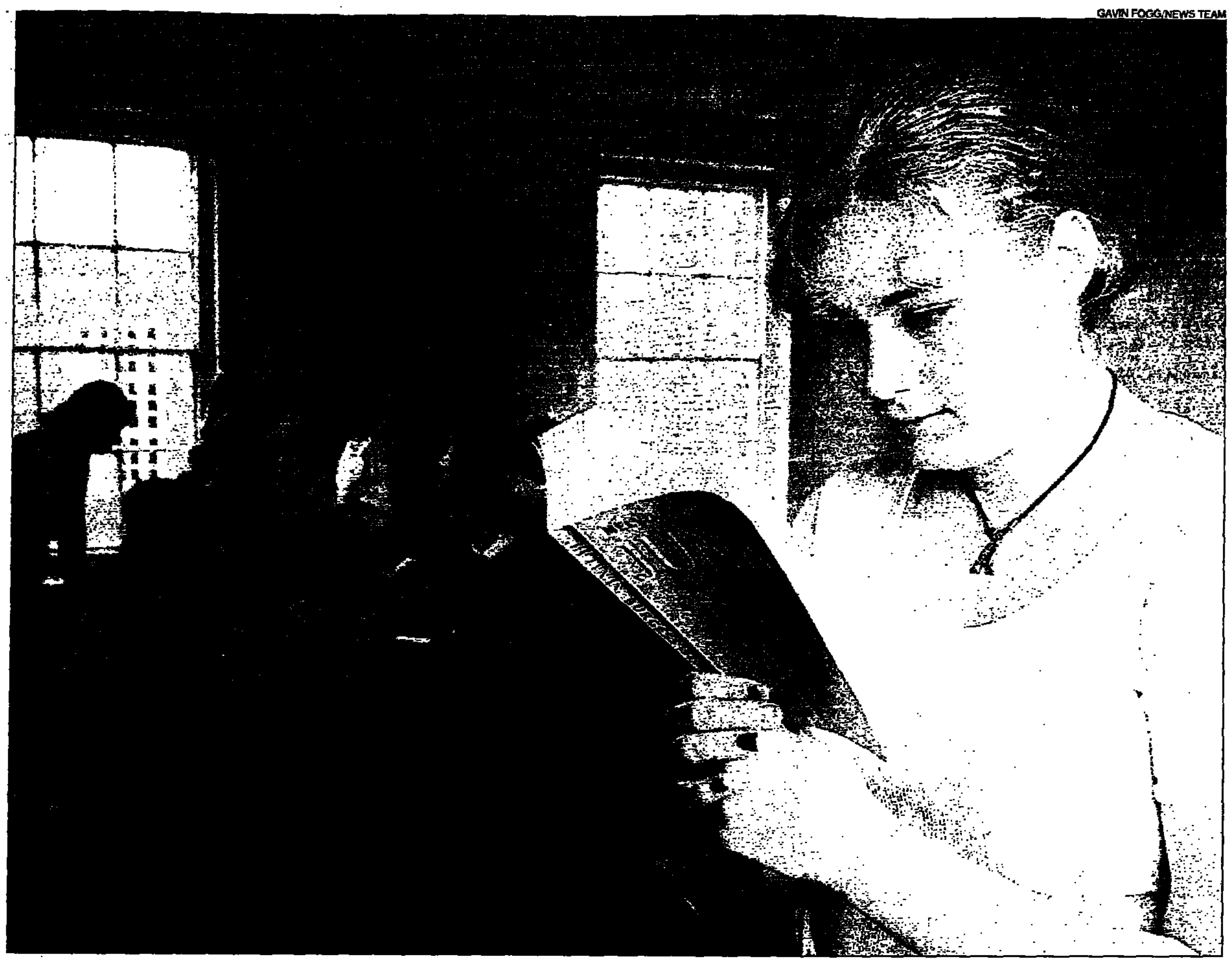
'It's not books that corrupt'

A novel about heroin has won a prize for children's literature. **Nicolette Jones** asks teenagers for their reaction to the book


GAVIN FOGG/NEWS TEAM

Out of darkness: a pupil at Wolverley High School, Kidderminster, reads Melvin Burgess's *Junk*, about two 14-year-old children who become addicted to heroin

On first glance it seems a misguided decision. Yesterday at the South Bank in London the Library Association Carnegie Award for "an outstanding book for children" was presented to Melvin Burgess for *Junk* (Adersen Press), a novel about two 14-year-olds who are seduced by heroin.

The book was selected from a shortlist that has already stirred media objections (in, among others, *The Guardian*, *Daily Mail* and *Mail on Sunday*) to the darkness of its subject which included arson, bullying, and the death of a child on an operating table. A similar kerfuffle ensued in 1993 when Robert Swindells' novel *Stone Cold* won the prize: it concerned a serial killer who preyed on the homeless.

Some people are clearly worried that a prize awarded, during its 61 years of existence, to the likes of Arthur Ransome, Walter de la Mare, Mary Norton and C.S. Lewis should honour books about these grim subjects. But the truth is that not one of this year's shortlisted books is sensationalising or irresponsible. It is a mistake to take umbrage without reading them. And the librarian judges of the prize, 13 members of the Youth Libraries Group, insist that this year, as every year, they all read every one of the 5 nominations. These judges are experts in children's books. They know what children actually read, not just what adults think they should. And this year the judges were specifically encouraged to test out books on children they knew, and consider their responses.

What were the librarian judges looking for? At one point their guidelines say: "According to the genre of the book and the age of the child reader, the plot should be constructive in the sense that ... it produces a sense of having extended knowledge [or] emotional capacity, taking the reader a step forward, even, occasionally, into a disturbed state."

The guidelines also declare that the judges will be "not afraid" of difficult or controversial subjects. But they add: "We are not looking for political correctness; or issues. The winner has to be a good book, over any other consideration." They certainly do not believe that the books on their shortlist are either depressing or at all damaging to young readers.

> ❛At the end of *Junk* you have the complete picture❜

And that view seems to be confirmed by the reaction of the children who have been involved in a remarkable "parallel" judging operation set up when the shortlist was announced in the spring. For some eight years the Carnegie has encouraged schools all over the country to "shadow" its adjudication, inviting them to read and appraise the shortlist and submit their own winner. Many of the schools have made the most of this suggestion, building extracurricular activities around the judging which have gone imaginatively well beyond its brief.

One such school is Wolverley High School in Kidderminster, Worcestershire, a mixed state secondary. Fifty pupils volunteered to join in the shadowing; 15 (aged between 15 and 17) were selected. They not only read and discussed the books, they also prepared a dramatic episode from each to perform to Year 9 pupils, who were also then invited to vote for the best book on the basis of the dramatisation. Eighty per cent of Wolverley's Year 9 (15-year-olds, at whom the book is aimed) voted for *Junk*.

By the time the children "shadowers" met to choose their own winner (with highly commended and commended runners-up), they had not only read the books, they had also discussed character, dialogue, themes and plot. They had spent 18 hours of their own free time in rehearsal for the dramatisations. They had thought about the books more than most schoolchildren think about their set texts. And they knew what they liked.

They thought that Elizabeth Laird's *Secret Friends*, aimed at eight to nine-year-olds and all about bullying, "dealt with grief really well". This was the book in which a child dies on an operating table. But there was no doubt about which book commanded their universal admiration: it was Burgess's *Junk*.

They loved its multiple viewpoints, its undidactic tone, its truthfulness. One girl, Andrea, said: "It has to be one of the best books I've read." Several pointed out that *Junk* is an unusual book about heroin addiction, in that it captures what attracts children to drugs — the glamour — and then tells the whole story. "At the end," said another pupil, Janis, "you have the complete picture."

Their discussion answered many of the objections to the judges' choice. Did they think its 14-year-old protagonists were too young? "We live near Birmingham," said Kerri. "We know that there are 11 and 12-year-olds sleeping rough on the streets there. The drug problem threatens children that young. And the book helped you to sympathise with them."

Is it suitable for children? Kerri thought that very young readers might be upset by some of the scenes. "But adults seem to think that if children don't know about drugs they won't do it. But we *do* know about it. We get to know from other sources."

Are they any more likely to take drugs because of reading it? "If you read *Junk* you don't have to go and try taking drugs to find out about it," said one pupil. Another felt that reading the book was "so much more effective than having a teacher lecturing you".

Did they think it a potentially harmful read? "Being naive is more dangerous," said Louise. "It's not books which corrupt people," said Janis. "It's other people."

Then they voted unanimously for *Junk* as the outright winner. At that stage, they did not know that the adult judges would also choose it. "They'll probably go for something gentler, but if they don't choose it they would be covering up the fact that a really good book could be useful," was one opinion. "Children should be given a chance to think for themselves," was another.

The argument for *Junk*'s merits could not have been put better by the author himself, although he has painful experience of drug abuse at rather closer quarters: his brother was a heroin addict. "I think it's best if children don't hear about drugs for the first time from someone who is trying to sell them some," says Burgess. "Forewarned is forearmed."

He is not alone in thinking this. Anna Lubelska, co-ordinator of the Drug Education Forum at the National Children's Bureau, says: "I believe that *Junk* should be part of every secondary school's drug education programme."

That is already starting to happen. Wolverley High School is now considering using *Junk* as one of its set texts in the classroom. And one of the pupils on the Carnegie panel has decided to stay on at school, instead of leaving to go to performing arts college, expressly in order to be able to join in next year's shadowing.

The pupils say that the whole experience expanded their range of reading and increased their wish to read for pleasure. It would seem that this year's Carnegie has already been a successful venture in encouraging literacy — and that *Junk* has already done much more good than harm.

Opportunity for reflection

CONCERT

Schubert Ensemble

Lichfield Cathedral

Architecturally enchanting though it is, the Lady Chapel at the east end of Lichfield Cathedral does not have the most favourable acoustic for chamber music. It could be worse, however: the back of the high altar forms a kind of reflective screen behind the performers and, while much of the sound seeps through the exquisite Gothic carving into the nave or drifts up to the high vaulted roof, a useful and distinctively spiritualised proportion of it does penetrate to the audience.

It depends too on the sensitivity of the musicians involved. If neither Mendelssohn's Piano Quartet in B minor, Op 3, nor Brahms's in A major, Op 26, was well chosen for the surroundings — one can imagine Messiaen's *Quatuor* here — the Schubert Ensemble of London was very conscious of the problems.

Although the strings could probably have been more assertive in the Mendelssohn to compensate for the attenuation in the sound at the front of the platform, textural clarity was most conscientiously and effectively well preserved.

It is a pity that the 15-year-old composer didn't wait until he was at least 30 before writing what must be the longest finale in all his chamber works, but it was fascinating to hear how much of the mature musician was already formed, and already (before the *Midsummer Night's Dream* overture) irresistible.

The other work in the programme was one of the rare items of new music to be heard at the Lichfield Festival these days. Commissioned by the Schubert Ensemble of London, John Woolrich's piano quartet, *Sestina*, turned out to be ideally written for the circumstances.

The ear, drawn into the atmosphere by the strings, was initially in fear of inappropriate sound from the piano, but the gentle chord clusters associated with its first entry were reassuringly in place. The poetry was sustained to the end, passing through formative but only vaguely defined allusions to music by other composers (helpfully identified by Woolrich as Debussy, Schubert, Beethoven, Schumann and Stravinsky) to a fairly clear echo of the Monteverdi madrigal which not only gave the work its name, but which also fitted it so convincingly to the scene of its first performance.

GERALD LARNER

NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Simple opera; fine Weber; Russian piano sensation

Getting the giggles on the ramparts

Jon Higgins

■ **BOIEDIEU**
La Dame blanche
Massis/Blake/Fouchécourt/Naouri/Ensemble Orchestre de Paris/Minkowski
EMI 5 5855 2 (two CDs), £30.99 ★

BOIELDIEU'S White Lady is a ghost which stalks the castle ramparts at midnight. Inevitably she turns out to be flesh and blood and sings in the soprano register. Add hidden treasure and a few secret corridors to a plot which Scribe cobbled together from a couple of Walter Scott novels, and *La Dame blanche* becomes open to the odd giggle. Nonetheless it notched up more than ,000 performances at the Opéra Comique in Paris during the first 40 years of its life in the 1st century.

That was mainly due to Boieldieu's score: simple and a bit repetitive, but very melodic and highly singable given the right cast. EMI has turned to the veteran American tenor Rockwell Blake for the high-lying role of Georges Brown, who returns from the Stuart wars in amnesiac state. Georges recovers his marbles with the help of the Scottish folksong *Robin Adair* and also gets an attractive aria early on. Blake's voice is past its prime but he has a game shot at a part which really needs a light lyric tenor. Two young French singers are better: Annick Massis (who makes her Glyndebourne debut in *Le Comte Ory* on Sunday) as the White Lady, and Laurent Naouri as the villian. Very lively conducting from Marc Minkowski.

CDs reviewed in *The Times* can be ordered from The Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **WEBER**
Clarinet Concertos 1 & 2; Concertino; Clarinet Quintet
Kriikku/Finnish RSO/Oramo
Ondine ODE 895-2, £14.49 ★★★

JUST as Mozart had his Stadler, and Brahms his Mühlfeld, so Weber had an inspirational clarinettist acquaintance. In the latter case, it was Heinrich Joseph Bärmann (composer of the Adagio long attributed to Wagner), who drew from Weber three concertante works in a single year, 1811.

The two concertos, in F minor and E flat major, along with the Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra, Op 26, can all be heard on this highly recommendable disc, in which the soloist is the young Finnish virtuoso Kari Kriikku. His refined tone and virtuosity — the twin attributes mentioned in contemporary accounts of Bärmann — would surely have inspired Weber too: this is playing of quite exceptional quality by a master of the instrument.

The Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra is conducted by Kriikku's compatriot Sakari Oramo, Rattle's appointed successor in Birmingham, though by way of a filler there is also a fine performance of Weber's Clarinet Quintet in B flat major, where Kriikku is joined by the New Helsinki Quartet.

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ **VOLODOS**
Piano Transcriptions
Arcadi Volodos
Sony SK 62691 £15.49 ★★

THE piano flavour of this month — and perhaps even longer, who knows? — is the 25-year-old Russian pianist Arcadi Volodos, a healthily late developer who recently made his Wigmore Hall debut, and has now been snapped up by Sony.

For his recording debut, nothing too solemn too soon: Volodos will alienate himself from purists and endear himself to transcription addicts in a recital which moves from daringly bold performances of two unpublished pieces by Vladimir Horowitz to Volodos's own decorative musings on two Rachmaninov songs.

Volodos's initial studies as a singer prepared him well for Liszt's Schubert transcriptions. One can almost taste the excitement of the invisible words in *Aufenthalt* and *Liebesbotschaft*, two wonderful examples of the power of transcription to metamorphose one composer's response to another, and liberate an entirely new creation.

Cziffra's totally manic transcription of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Bumblebee* is outdone only by Samuel Feinberg's outrageous antics with the Scherzo of Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony. Here, Volodos's playing would have been enhanced by a touch more fancy, and something of the brilliance and sheer flair he brings to his own transcription of Mozart's *Turkish March*.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
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CHANGING TIMES

Terry Waite looks back in anguish at his time in captivity and reflects upon the issues that lie at the heart of terrorism

An unbroken circle of violence

HEZBOLLAH
Born with a Vengeance
By Hala Jaber
Fourth Estate, £18.99
ISBN 1 85702 381 1

Shortly after my release from captivity in Beirut I agreed to be interviewed by Michael Burke for the BBC. We sat together in the library of the Travellers. The conversation turned towards the unusually unpleasant intrigue that had surrounded my attempts and the attempts of others to release hostages.

"Mr Waite," he said. "Was there never a time during your negotiations when you felt out of your depth?"

"Michael," I replied. "There was never a time when I felt *in* my depth.".

Five years have passed since that interview. Ten since the full force of intrigue hit with me with a blow that was to propel me back to Lebanon in a vain attempt to retrieve the broken threads of a doomed intervention.

Time is a great healer but the passing of the years does not erase the pain totally. When Hala Jaber, the author of this succinct analysis of the history and development of Hezbollah, first asked to see me I stalled, even though Terry Anderson urged me to see her. Now, with her book lying on my desk for review, I experience the same reluctance to re-visit old memories. Within its pages is a grim black and white photograph of the "Hostage Hilton" in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

This unfinished school, later used as a barracks, was where I, along with other Western hostages, was kept for the first weeks of my incarceration. This one picture brings memories flooding back to me. Memories of double-dealing, deceit and a loneliness that was so acute it was almost palpable. I remember, too, the utter bewilderment which I felt when relatives of yet another Western hostage would come to see me at Lambeth Palace in a desperate attempt to get someone to do something on their behalf.

Ms Jaber notes that a total of 17 different phantoms claimed responsibility for the abductions ranging from "Islamic Dawn" to "Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine". That was one of the first problems I had to tackle. Who exactly was responsible for the abductions? Was there one overall group operating through a series of interdependent units and in pursuit of a common goal, or, was it simply a series of kidnappings organised by groups with either a loose attachement, or no attachment to one another?

When finally I was able to establish face-to-face contact (albeit blindfolded) with a group of the kidnappers, they would only admit and supply evidence that they held a small group of American hostages and certainly would not tell me whom they represented.

In tracing the history of Hezbollah, Ms Jaber, with her first-hand expert knowledge of the region, illustrates the multi-faceted strategies deployed by the principal actors in the ongoing drama: Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Palestine, Israel and of course a whole gamut of Western powers. It is this very fact that made, and continues to make, the political problems and consequent disasters facing the people of the region so complicated and difficult to analyse.

"Hostage Hilton", where Waite and McCarthy were held

In attempting to find an entry point into the problem, certain highly placed informants assured me that the key to the hostage problem lay with Iran. Others, with equal conviction, urged me to develop contacts in Syria and of course in Lebanon itself. Ms Jaber does a creditable job in attempting to examine the role of the different players, not only in relation to the hostage crisis but to the general politics of the region, and admits that there remains a considerable area of uncertainty as to "who did what".

The "truth" of events is, of course, interpreted in a variety of ways according to the position and perception of the observer. There is no one "truth" about the situation in Lebanon. The various players acted and interacted one with another and the strands woven across the years have not always made an intelligent pattern.

This difficulty is well illustrated by an interview Ms Jaber conducted with the Shiite doctor who was used by the kidnappers as an intermediary and whom I met on several occasions. His memory of events in which I was a participant differs radically from my own. Is he telling the truth as he honestly remembers it, or is he suffering from that failure of accurate recollection that unfortunately afflicts all of us sooner or later?

I have no doubt whatsoever that he is totally mistaken and that the more likely reason for his version of events is that he is attempting to paint himself in the best possible light, given the fact that he found himself in such an exposed position. Jaber and the reader have no means of knowing. One should recognise that he is not the only person in Lebanon to have "massaged" the facts. This small and not particularly significant event reminds me of what a mire of deception Lebanon was in the Eighties and how difficult it is for anyone to give an accurate rendering of events. The reader needs to keep in mind that in every interaction recorded in this book, a plethora of games are being played out by individuals and groups who have mastered the skills across the generations.

One of the significant values of this book is what it tells us about the growth and development of so-called "terrorist" movements, the author tells us that members of Hezbollah reacted strongly against being called terrorists. Indeed they did and they often told me so. If we take it that the root of the word is terror and that a terrorist may be described as anyone who attempts to further his or her views by the use of coercive intimidation, then perhaps the grounds for objection begin to weaken.

At the same time, given some of the actions alleged to have been committed by Israel, America, Syria and the other players in the region, can anyone escape this designation? Like the tragic situation in Ireland, the roots of Hezbollah extend back into distant history. They involve a group of people with little or no political or economic power, united by a common religion and gradually driven into an extreme position. The graphic accounts in the book of "terrorist" attacks where individuals have been convinced of their immediate heavenly reward are a chilling reminder of the power of religious ideology to motivate the most inhuman of actions. It is the very terror itself, which is committed by all parties, that eventually takes over and clouds the root issues.

I have long argued that terrorism is but symptomatic of much deeper disorders in society. One of the problems is that the hate and mistrust caused by terrorism prevents anyone from getting to the fundamental issues.

At the end of her informative book Ms Jaber states what she sees as the fundamental issue succinctly: "So long as the West and Israel continue to regard the problem [of Hezbollah] as a crusade against terrorism they are in fact denying their own responsibility for fostering the conditions which gave rise to Hezbollah, but as long as Israel continues to defy the international decree which calls for the end of its presence in South Lebanon, there is very little hope that the circle of violence will end."

Making a movie of his life

Nicholas Wapshott on the dark secrets of the father of film noir

FRITZ LANG
The Nature of the Beast
By Patrick McGilligan
Faber, £30
ISBN 0 571 19175 4

The reputation of Fritz Lang as a master of early German cinema is largely overshadowed nowadays by his Hollywood years, when he brought psychological depth and visual artistry to a succession of American film themes, including the crime thriller and the western. But while he is revered as the father of film noir — where would Orson Welles have been without him? — it is his German work that ensures his place as a giant of the cinema.

There were other Germans and, like Lang, Austrians breaking startling new ground in the early years of the century, among them Ernst Lubitsch, F. W. Murnau, Georg Pabst and Josef von Sternberg. But few can match's Lang's work at its best. *Dr Mabuse, the Gambler* (1922), *Metropolis* (1927) and *M* (1931) are benchmarks in film-making and among Germany's most important 20th-century works of art.

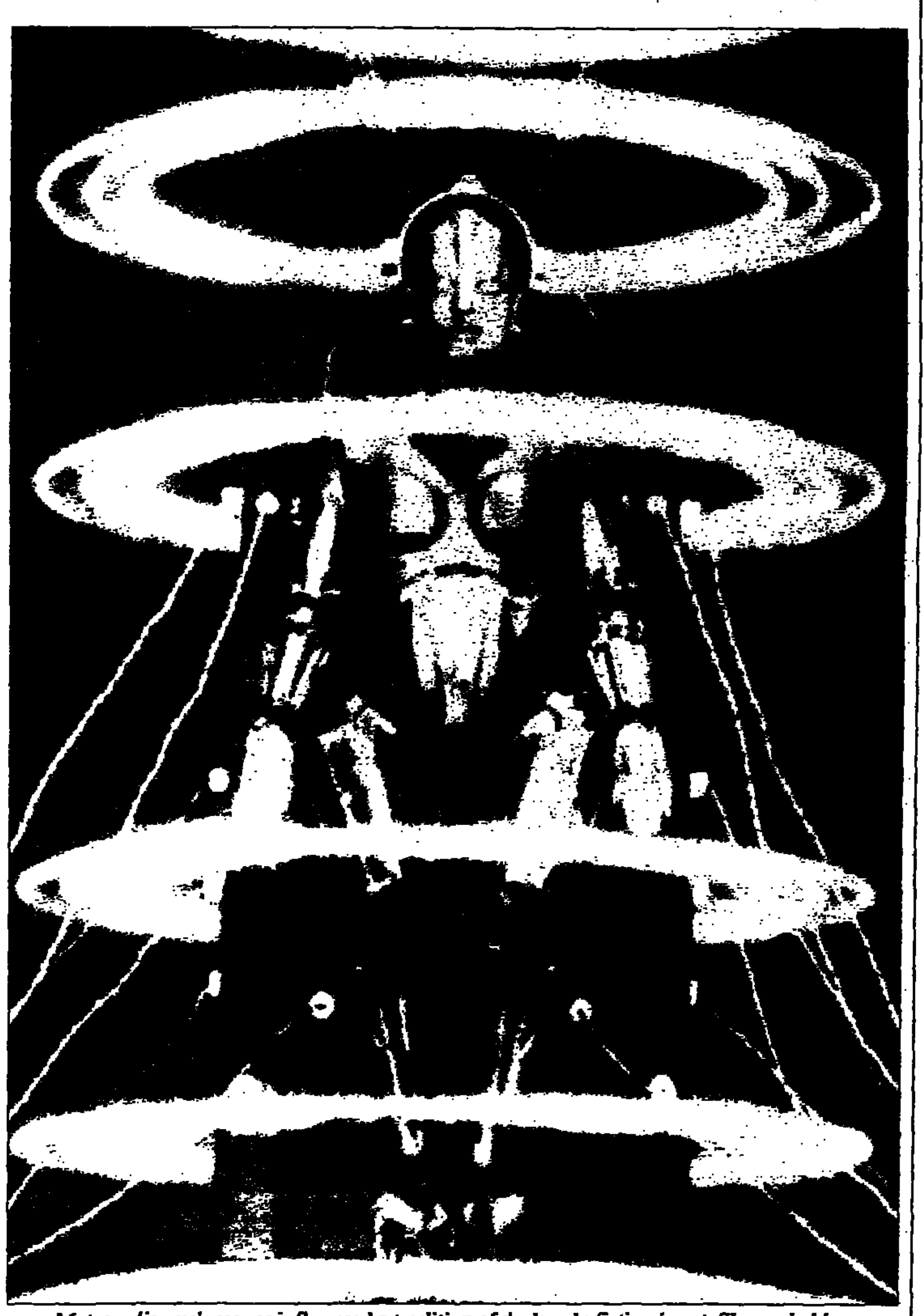
Yet despite Lang's pre-eminence, there has been a reluctance to grant him the credit he deserves. The French critics may love his dark, pulp films, but other Europeans tend to regret that he so quickly assimilated himself into the American way of storytelling, that his Hollywood films rarely give a hint of the full gothic extravagance of his German work. But more damaging to Lang's reputation is the questioning of the events surrounding his departure from Germany under Nazism. He was torn between his mother, who was Jewish, and his wife, who became a party member, and he is accused, at the least, of not leaving Germany quickly enough.

Was Lang soft on the Nazis? Did Goebbels ask him to lead the Nazi film industry? Patrick McGilligan's judgement of Lang's behaviour at the most dramatic turning point of his career displays a respect for the truth which few movie biographers attempt. And his verdict on Lang is mixed.

Lang liked to tell a story about his last night in Germany. He was summoned by Joseph Goebbels to a meeting in the propaganda ministry. Goebbels began explaining why his new film, *The Last Will of Dr Mabuse*, needed a few cuts and insertions to bring it up to Nazi standards. Lang felt intimidated, angry and anxious. Then out of the blue Goebbels asked Lang to head up the Nazified German film industry. Lang avoided making a decision there and then and decided instead he must leave the country without delay. As he sat sweating in his chair, he realised that the banks were shutting. And so, penniless and in fear of his life, he slipped onto the night train to Paris to the start of a life in exile.

Fritz Lang told the tale as if it were a movie. The setting, Goebbels's cavernous and starkly furnished office, is pure German Expressionism; the plot echoes the heightened drama of the psychological thrillers Lang made his own. But reading the conflicting accounts of the incident brought together by McGilligan it is difficult not to come to the conclusion that Lang was dressing up denial as hyperbole. There is little evidence the meeting took place at all; Goebbels did not think the encounter worth entering in his diary. And far from leaving the country immediately and penniless, it seems Lang took his time arranging his affairs before leaving Germany for good.

While those in Hollywood who remembered Lang from Germany always harboured their doubts about him, his ambiguous brush with Nazism did him no apparent harm in the industry. He worked consistently and well. The subjects handed down to him by studio executives suited him and he always enriched them with a psychological complexity which eluded others. This well-written account of Lang's life does credit to the career as a whole and offers an intelligent and persuasive argument to look again at Lang's films with a feeling of anticipation.



Metropolis: such scenes influenced a tradition of dark pulp fiction in art, film and video

Dangers of the people's sovereignty

Robert Blak

EDMUND BURKE
His Life and Legacy
Edited by Ian Crowe
Four Courts Press, £3
ISBN 1 85182 306 9

EDMUND BURKE AND OUR PRESENT DISCONTENTS
By Jim McCue
Claridge Press, £14.95
ISBN 1 870626 17 6

EDMUND BURKE
By Conor Cruise O'Br
Abridged by Jim McC
Sinclair-Stevenson, £12.9
ISBN 1 85619 698 4

This is the bicentenary of Burke's death. A number of books are being published to mark the occasion and a commemorative party has been given by the Burke Society in the Speaker's House by courtesy of the occupier. Burke is generally regarded as a great parliamentarian, though in his day he was far from commanding the attention of his colleagues. He spoke at immense length in a strong Irish brogue, and became known as the Dinner Bell, because Members filed off for food and drink when he rose to his feet in the evening. But greater men and orators have had the same experience. Winston Churchill in the 1930s often found himself addressing empty benches.

Jim McCue, who writes for *The Times*, is a notable Burkean expert. He has edited and abridged in paperback the splendid life by Conor Cruise O'Brien, whose Irish and political background made him such a percipient biographer. The quintessence is there, but one regrets the excision of the enjoyable correspondence between the author and Sir Isaiah Berlin.

Mr McCue is himself author of an excellent book, the title derived from Burke's *Thoughts on the Cause of the Present Discontents* (1770) which was an attack on the excessive interference by George III in the House of Commons. There is no such threat from the modern monarchy, whatever some silly Old Labourites may say. But there is such a thing as the tyranny of the majority. Tony Blair at the head of a triumphalist and arrogant party, supported by about the same popular vote numerically as John Major in 1992, shows signs of a worrying contempt for the traditions of the Commons. Perhaps he should read Burke, and substitute Prime Minister for King.

Burke was a great believer in what was called a mixed constitution — one in which the functions of the monarchy, the Lords and Commons resulted in a pragmatic division of contending powers, each restraining the other. As Mr McCue observes, vestiges of this concept still exist, but what Burke most feared is fast happening: the "sovereignty of the people" is overriding all checks on the Commons. The Monarch is a figurehead, and the Lords will soon become an overcrowded quango of placemen.

Burke is regarded as the symbol and exemplar of "conservatism" in its later meaning but for most of his life he was devoted to "liberal" causes. He set out in famous words to the electors of Bristol the right of their MP to be a representative, not a delegate. They did not thank him and chucked him out. He opposed the coercion of the American colonies, the incompetent administration of Ireland and the malpractices of the East India Company. He devoted years of his life to the impeachment of Warren Hastings. He failed, but India was better governed thereafter.

Until 1790 Burke had been the intellectual power behind the Whiggism of Rockingham and Fox. He played a similar role to that of Disraeli in support of post-1846 Toryism — a useful but largely mistrusted necessity. But Burke never reached the Cabinet. By Disraeli's day the political world had changed. Even an adventurer could climb to the top of the greasy pole. But after Burke's famous denunciation of the French Revolution the Foxites and he parted company. It seemed a total volte-face from all that he had previously stood for. Was not the Revolution a cause for rejoicing among all true lovers of liberty — a moment when it was bliss to be alive! Tories naturally detested it, but for a Whig to attack it in immortal language seemed an outrage to what would now be called the Left — as dazzled by France then as their spiritual descendants were to be by Russia after 1917. Burke predicted that an egalitarian revolution would result in a despotism in the name of The People. He was right.

Burke: symbol of conservatism?

Of this trio of books the most helpful introduction to Burke is the volume of essays edited by Ian Crowe, which covers briefly most aspects of the person whom Dr Johnson described as an extraordinary man. Burke is usually regarded as a Conservative icon. A. J. P. Taylor called him a "Whig hack". But New Labour has refused to accept a Tory monopoly of Burke. Side by side there are essays in his praise by John Redwood and Lord Plant. Nothing could illustrate better the final extinction of British socialism.

The Bible bashed

Gabriel Josipovici

THE HARLOT BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD
Forbidden Tales of the Bible
By Jonathan Kirsch
Rider, £17.99
ISBN 0 7126 7209 5

Jonathan Kirsch, a Los Angeles lawyer and book reviewer, has had the bright idea of bringing together and discussing some of those biblical stories which priests and rabbis and Sunday School teachers prefer to pass over in silence: the incest of Lot and his daughters, the rape of Tamar by her brother Amnon, the mysterious episode of God's seeking to kill Moses and being bought off by the quick thinking of his wife, who cuts off her son's foreskin and throws it at the avenging deity, and many others.

His method is to retell the story first in his own words and then to devote a chapter to an analysis of its meaning and implications. Drawing on a wide range of scholarship, he brings out well how, over the centuries, the keepers of the tradition have sought to soften the impact of these stories and sometimes to censor them out altogether. He is particularly good, as one might expect, at disentangling the legal implications of many of the biblical terms and episodes, and at bringing out how different readings serve different political agendas.

Thus with the story of how Jacob's sons Simeon and Levi take their revenge on Hamor and Shechem for the "rape" of their sister Dinah, the Bible clearly condemns them through the mouth of their father; but revisionist scholars, especially in Israel, have argued that Jacob is mealy-mouthed and that Simeon and Levi are to be praised for their single-minded desire to avenge their sister. The Bible, suggests Kirsch, in fact offers us "two visions of the stranger and two approaches to dealing with him: one that exhorts us to make war, the other that encourages us to make peace and even, as the story of Dinah and Schecehem may secretly suggest, make love."

The trouble is that by relentlessly seeking out the sexual implications of what the Bible recounts, Kirsch too often trivialises these stories. This becomes painfully evident in his retelling of the stories, which is almost embarrassingly banal. "Amnon relaxed his grip ever so slightly, then tugged sharply on her arm, and Tamar tumbled headfirst into his bed. He rolled on top of her, pinning her long legs with his own legs and pressing down on her hips with his own hips. Soon, only her head was free, and she whipped back and forth like a snake." The Bible merely has: "And when she had brought [the cakes] near unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her, 'Come, with me, my sister.' And she answered him: 'Nay, my brother, do not force me: for no such thing ought to be done in Israel.'"

It is not just that the style Kirsch adopts is so Mills and Boonish: it is that the very fact of turning biblical narrative into a modern novel draws us into the psychology of the characters and loses precisely what is so rich, both artistically and theologically, about the spare objective narrative of the Bible.

His mentors, he readily acknowledges, are Harold Bloom, the author of *The Book of J*, and Jack Miles, the author of *God, A Biography*, both of them books which have the same virtues and failings as his own. His third mentor is Joseph Heller, the author of *God Knows*, that wonderful novel about King David which manages to avoid nearly all the pitfalls of the genre. Interested readers should start there.

Some are less equal

Amanda Craig

PIG TALES
By Marie Darrieussecq
Translated by Linda Coverdale
Faber, £9.99
ISBN 0 571 19186 X

METAMORPHOSIS has been a feature of novels since literature began: but the 20th century, for obvious reasons, has been more fascinated by it than most. Kafka's masterpiece is the greatest of Ovidian fantasies, but here is a best-selling French version by Marie Darrieussecq.

Pig Tales is narrated by a young woman who works in a massage parlour. Her burgeoning pig-flesh is at first appreciated by her clients, who indulge in "farmyard ways", and enable her to not only bring home the bacon but feast on flowers — a rarity, in a future of euros and social breakdown.

Eventually, the "poor dumb creature" becomes too porky to poke. She poses for a political poster ("Take a perfectly healthy girl ... have her gain a smidgen of weight, tire her out and you'll see what I mean") then disappears, first into the underground, then to a lunatic asylum, while her country erupts in corruption and cruelty. Finding love with a werewolf, she remains unenlightened but eventually prefers to stay as a pig in order to enjoy life in the country.

As fat is a feminist issue, we may read into *Pig Tales* any number of tiresome messages which, with the rise of models like Sophie Dahl, now look somewhat dated. Women undergo a natural metamorphosis during pregnancy: it is what happens inside the head that is more interesting. We are left with a book that has neither the bite of satire nor the swish of pornography.

What is really objectionable about *Pig Tales* is the absence of beauty and pity which, as Nabokov observed, is the hall-mark of *The Metamorphosis*. Where Kafka's story minutely details the essentially insect-like patterns of behaviour and indifference within a petit-bourgeois family, Darrieussecq has nothing new to say about lust and our animal nature.

Her combination of erotica, intellectual pretentiousness and melodrama is, dare we say it, peculiarly French. It is something the British reader will unerringly detect as pure hogwash.

Amanda Craig's A Vicious Circle *is published in paperback by Fourth Estate, priced £5.99.*

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Lisa Jardine on Angela Carter

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Season of betrayal

Jonathan Mirsky wonders just how solidly the Government supported Hong Kong's last Governor in the dealings with China

Jonathan Dimbleby's newest book has caused a sensation in Britain, as did his last, on the Prince of Wales; but this time because of the public rather than the private life of his central figure. The sensation arises from a mighty *j'accuse*: that some of the best-known men in British diplomatic life — Lord Howe of Aberavon, Sir Percy Cradock, Lord Wilson of Tillyorn, and Sir Robin McLaren — are guilty of "arrogance, cynicism, a dishonourable conduct ... Britain's reputation there will be indelibly stained by the mark of appeasement." Most damningly, Mr Dimbleby suggests that Hong Kong "liberal opinion" accuses these men of "betrayal" — which he carefully encloses in inverted commas.

The charge of "betrayal", in a long and elegantly written book, centres on 1986 and 1987 when Britain was faced with Chinese objections to a White Paper looking forward to very modest elections in 1988 for the Legislative Council. The Hong Kong Government decided to test public opinion and discovered that an overwhelming number of people favoured such a small political reform. It then, with what Dimbleby calls "... a breathtaking sleight of hand ... designed to suggest the reverse was true ... with an effrontery usually only associated with totalitarian states and banana republics", declared to the Hong Kong people that they opposed an election — when in fact 265,078 favoured such one and only 94,565 did not.

THE LAST GOVERNOR
Chris Patten and the Handover of Hong Kong
By Jonathan Dimbleby
Little, Brown, £22.50
ISBN 0 316 64018 2

This was more or less understood at the time. What Mr Dimbleby states flatly in his book and *is* utterly base if true, is that Lord Howe, Robin McLaren, and Lord Wilson (then Sir David Wilson), advised by Sir Percy, warned the Chinese that the poll would go against them, and then connived to rig it. Mr Dimbleby says that London "advised the Chinese informally" that they should instruct their friends in Hong Kong to write to the government polling office indicating their opposition to elections. Chris Patten describes this as "a pretty peculiar business" and "bogus".

Mr Dimbleby also says that the Foreign Office, astoundingly, neglected to tell the new Governor in 1992, before he arrived in Hong Kong, that two years earlier the Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, and the Chinese Foreign Minister, Qian Qichen, reached an agreement on certain arrangements for future elections. One of these, had Mr Patten been told, cast into doubtful legitimacy a section of the Governor's reforms, the very package which caused Beijing to call him a whore.

Mr Patten got a whiff of this just before going up to Beijing to discuss his plan with his opposite numbers, who naturally thought he was the messenger for a fundamental breach of agreement. He didn't dare tell them of the cock-up. Douglas Hurd told Mr Dimbleby that he had forgotten about his agreement with Mr Qian and admitted it had been a mistake not to inform the Governor.

Also listed as not telling Mr Patten are Sir Percy Cradock — who says convincingly that he was certain Mr Patten had been properly briefed — Sir Robin, "who drafted the British documents" and Tony Galsworthy, Mr Patten's Foreign Office political adviser and now Britain's new Ambassador to China. Mr Patten was forced to walk naked into the presence of his enemies.

This sounds like a mammoth cock-up. What seems to me genuine betrayal is something not yet noted in last week's hasty scrambles to name the guilty men. In 1993 Mr Hurd invited Mr Patten, less than a year after his appointment as Governor, to return to London and, as Leader of the House of Lords, "help shepherd the Government and a beleaguered Prime Minister towards the next election."

Mr Patten, "not tempted for a moment", would, however, have returned out of "loyalty and political conviction" if the Prime Minister had "asked him unequivocally ... ". In 1994, three years before the handover, John Major himself made an improved offer: Leader of the Lords, Foreign Secretary, and Deputy Prime Minister, all rolled into one: "Apart from Major himself, Patten would become the most powerful man in the Cabinet."

What troubled the Governor, who was able to refuse again, was that for the Prime Minister, who always insisted in public that he stood solidly behind Mr Patten, " Britain's mission in Hong Kong somehow mattered less in 10 Downing Street than the future of his administration: "For a while Patten brooded on this: it did nothing to cheer him."

People in Hong Kong will have the right to wonder after all this, together with Mr Dimbleby's accounts of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his predecessor refusing to stay in Government House because it might anger China, the rows with Michael Heseltine, James Callaghan, Lord Young, Michael Howard, and most of the Foreign Office "sinologues," if Chris Patten, during his five years there, had been out on his own limb — which many in London, at the highest level of government, were striving to lop off.

AP

Chris Patten receives the Union Flag, lowered for the last time from Government House in Hong Kong on June 30

Finally, an unavoidable question hangs over Mr Dimbleby's entire account: can we trust it? He says he had "easy access" to Mr Patten who agreed to discuss "his strategy and tactics at every stage of what was to be a serious and sustained diplomatic crisis. "How did Mr Patten, whose authorised memoir in fact this is, convince Mr Dimbleby? Did he show him state documents? During the Legislative Council crucial vote in 1994 on Mr Patten's programme, Mr Dimbleby was present during a discussion of what must have been telephone intercepts only minutes before from Beijing to its allies in the council building.

Mr Patten used to insist there was not "the thickness of a piece of paper" between him and the Prime Minister on Hong Kong matters. In *The Last Governor* we learn that a very large pantechnicon could have been driven between the two men on a fundamental issue: the need for the Governor to stay at the helm until the midnight of the 1997 handover. As for the rest of the charges, which may or may not traduce men whose honour is precious to them, Mr Dimbleby must now move from allegation to proof.

John Weightman lays Lacan bare

Analysing the analyst

JACQUES LACAN
An Outline of a Life and History of a System of Thought
By Elizabeth Roudinesco
Polity Press, £25
ISBN 0 7456 1523 6

Once, at a Parisian dinner party, I heard a lady remark: "*Mon fils vient de sortir de son Oedipe*" (My son has just got over his Oedipus complex), much as she might have said that he had recently had his appendix removed. This brought home to me the fact that for a surprising number of French intellectuals, Freudianism is not simply an interesting body of parascientific speculation, but a dogmatic system to be accepted as the truth. Consequently, its history, like that of all revealed religions, has been endlessly fraught with doctrinal disputes. No wonder, then, that this extraordinary book about the most flamboyant French neo-Freudian of the 20th century should read like an account of the schisms in the medieval Church and be redolent with *odium theologicum*.

At first, one might take Ms Roudinesco for an anti-Lacanian, because she paints such a damning picture of Lacan, the man. An unfaithful husband to two wives and a neglectful, capricious father, he was "a womaniser and a libertine", "greedy", "snobbish", "devious" and possessed by "an immense desire to be recognised and famous". But she praises the professional: "Lacan towered over all the members of his own generation in terms of personal charisma, as well as clinical and theoretical genius".

However, she is strangely schizoid, since her book contains ample evidence to contradict this positive view of Lacan's achievement. She doesn't seem to notice that she herself undermines her encomium by frequently demonstrating that he plays fast and loose with Freud and even, as she puts it, "massacres" him in translation. She also shows that many eminent people who came into contact with Lacan or tried to read his big, sibylline text, *Ecrits*, had a negative reaction. He claimed to have incorporated into Freudianism concepts derived from, amongst others, Claude Lévi-Strauss, Ramon Jakobson and Martin Heidegger, but Lévi-Strauss refused to comment on his work, saying ironically that he couldn't understand it. Jakobson was careful to keep his distance and Heidegger dryly remarked: "The psychiatrist needs a psychiatrist." I must declare a prejudice; I once attended a lecture he gave, and was so put off by his spasmodic, oracular delivery that I left before the end.

But not everyone is allergic to gurus, far from it. Ms Roudinesco describes how the audience at his "seminars" (his teaching was mainly oral) gradually increased over the years, so that, by 1963, when he broke with mainstream Freudianism and founded his own *Ecole Freudienne*, he had an army of fervent, if quarrelsome, disciples. From being "a brilliant Socrates" in a limited context, he eventually allowed himself "to be worshipped like a god and his teaching to be treated as holy writ".

She blames his followers for this, but was it *not a consequence* of his own colossal vanity? At an early stage, he developed the maniacal conviction that he was "the only person capable of listening to the true word of Freud". Being both a law unto himself and economical with the truth, he disregarded the rules of the International Psychoanalytical Society while claiming to respect them, and so fell foul of various members, including the three major female figures, Anna Freud, Melanie Klein and Marie Bonaparte. His own *Ecole* had a stormy existence under his dictatorial and erratic leadership; well before his death, it had begun to explode into what Ms Roudinesco calls "messianic sects".

Lacan: lies from the couch?

In his last phase, when he tried to combine Freudianism with Joycean word-play in the manner of *Finnigan's Wake*, he seems to have become definitely deranged, probably through some physiological deterioration of the brain, due to old age: certainly, the last texts quoted by Ms Roudinesco cannot be described as sane.

Thanks to his celebrity and to the high fees he charged for analytical sessions, and even "non-sessions" (ie, a few minutes in the silent, or near-silent, presence of the Master), he had long been a rich man. In one respect, at least, he conformed to original Freudian symbolism; he preferred to keep his wealth in gold ingots.

It's good to exorcise

David Dabydeen

THE BOUNTY
By Derek Walcott
Faber, £14.99
ISBN 0 571 19130 4

Bounty is Derek Walcott's bid to lay the ghosts of his life and career while elegising his late mother, Alix Walcott, and reminiscing on his experience of the world, of art and of the Caribbean. It is a book in which the poet returns to his beginnings but continuously broods about his end, and also about the excessive bounty of the earth, of landscape, art, kinship and memory.

The first part is about the death of his mother; then he reflects on Europe, its cultural treasures and the haunting tragedies of its sins. He recalls the French Impressionists, ancestors of his watercolour painting which adorns the cover of the book. He reflects on Italy, on modern and classical Rome, ending with an allusion to Oedipus at Colonus whose tragic fate was bequeathed to his daughter, but which could also be Walcott himself passing the mantle. *Bounty* underscores issues and themes that are important to Walcott, to literature and to all humanity, such as "the pain of exile" and "the self-importance of despair". He compresses almost his whole life in the book, even composing his own epitaph while at the same time ironically reliving the great cities of Cervantes and Manet. "'Here lies/ DW. This place is good to die in'. It really was."

Although at times a bit self-indulgent, the poet is conscious of his unending preoccupation with the sentiment of elegy. He asks his friend and fellow Nobel laureate, Joseph Brodsky, who died in 1996: "Joseph, why am I writing this/ when you cannot read it?" Of his mother, he asks: "But can she or can she not read this? Can you read this/ Mamma, or hear it?" He reflects the "self-importance of despair" in such lines, and in many others in which he echoes Auden's remark on the lonely individualness of suffering and Dylan Thomas's metaphor of the River Rowy which flows on as if "obliterating hurt".

But while Walcott stresses the continuance of indifferent business as usual in spite of his grief, and while the poetry will sometimes tire with repetition, the metaphors of death are deployed in Romantic fashion to celebrate bounty in all its meanings. He takes his title from a line of Yeats — "the bounty of Sweden" — and indeed, a past criticism of him was that the influence of some British and European poets was too evident in his verse. He refers to Shakespeare as well as to Dante Alighieri whose *terza rima* verse form of he uses to such perfection in *Omeros* and in Part One of this book. His work draws strength from John Clare, Eliot, Lawrence, Dylan Thomas, Marvell and Synge.

But the greatest influence detected here is of Walcott himself. *The Bounty* rings with repeated echoes of his earlier verse, including *In a Green Night*, *Another Life*, *The Gulf* and *Omeros*, with an abundance of revisited themes and fossil-metaphors. He returns to his repeatedly used linguistic and syntactic metaphors such as "... then winter,/ where you stand like an exclamation on a page of white ground" and "squirrels spring up like questions". The most important issue, however, is that despite the several other repetitions from the past, Walcott is no longer learning "to suffer in accurate iambics" or rooting for "scraps of favour" as he was in the 1960s. *Bounty* is hardened by the best verse one is likely to find anywhere in the world and even if there are debts to the wider literature, the result is all Walcott's. With originality and confidence, he shapes a craft whose assured excellence, even now, does not cease to amaze.

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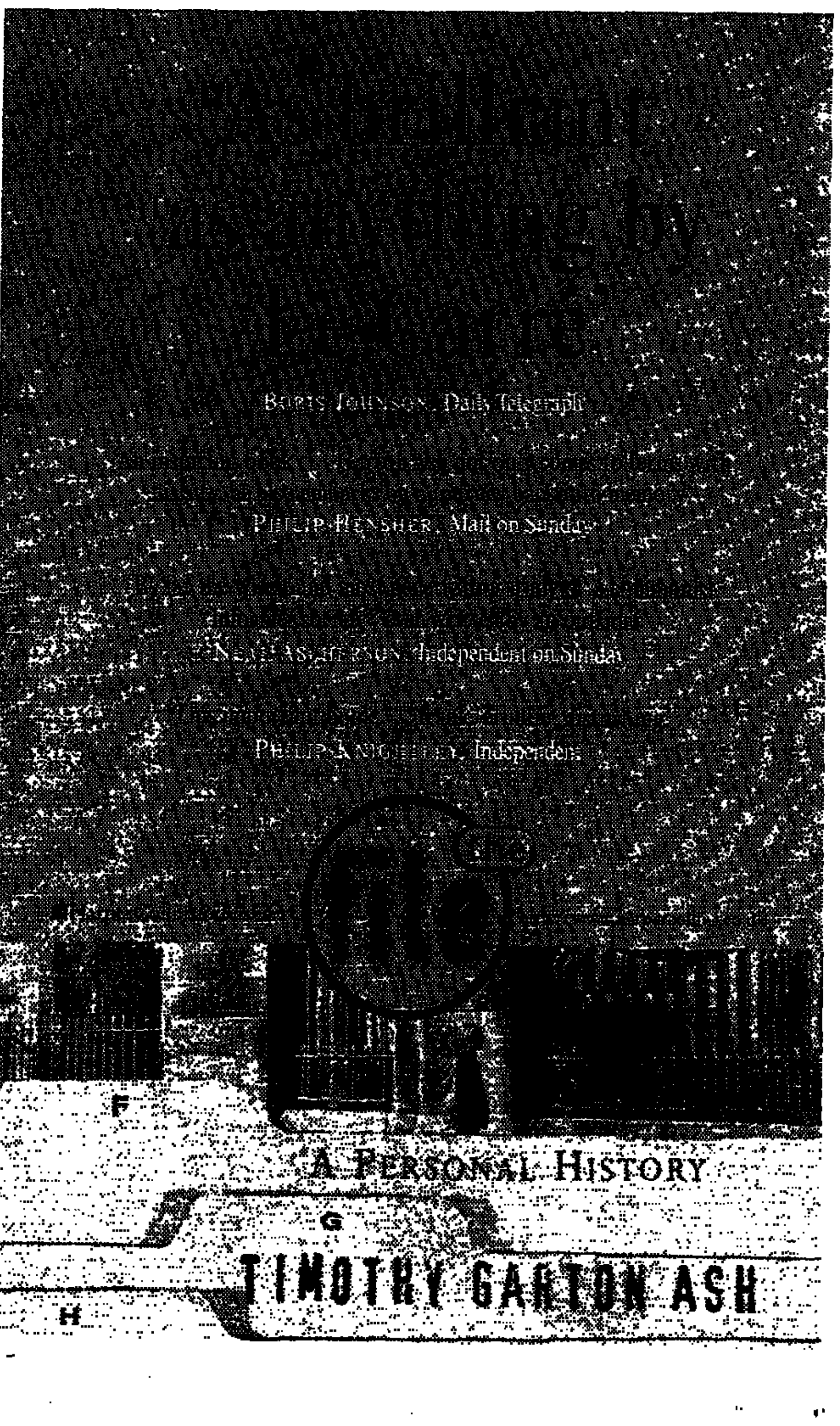


Boris Johnson, Daily Telegraph
Philip Hensher, Mail on Sunday
Neal Ascherson, Independent on Sunday
Philip Knightley, Independent
A Personal History
TIMOTHY GARTON ASH

The industry's new confederation, launched today, reflects the restoration of its confidence after the 'double dip' recession, **Philip Bassett** reports

Builders regroup to welcome recovery

Britain's building industry is emerging from the doldrums of the Nineties, boosted by a growing economy and policy changes introduced by the new Government.

Instead of job losses and firms facing closure, the talk in the construction industry is now of demand, new jobs, opportunity and growth.

Sir Martin Laing, chairman of John Laing, says the industry is now out of recession — though he stresses that it was hit harder and for longer than other industries, with construction going back into a slump as other sectors pulled out.

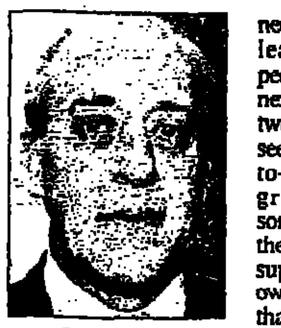
He judges the "double dip" recession to be over now — and is looking forward with hope and confidence.

The building industry will mark this change today with the launch of its new Construction Confederation. In the restored splendour of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on London's South Bank, the major British construction companies will celebrate what they hope will be their own splendid restoration after the rough days of the 1990s — as companies, and as a coherent representative force in dealing with the new Government.

"Historically, the construction industry has done better under Labour governments than Conservative governments," says Sir Martin, who is president of the new confederation.

It is odd, then, that construction companies have been among the most financially generous supporters of the Conservatives. Stressing that Laing's itself does not make financial donations to any political party, Sir Martin acknowledges the point — though industry leaders recognise that because of it, they may well have some ground to make up with New Labour.

Ian Deslandes, chief executive of the new confederation, is specific about how construction views the new Government.



Optimistic: Sir Martin Laing

"The first two months can hardly have been better," he says. "For construction, the real difference is that the last two years were so uncertain. Construction is an investment industry, and the uncertainty in the lead-up to the election meant that people investing in construction who were looking for long-term direction couldn't see it."

The industry has been hit hard by stop-go economics, so the Government's strictures against boom and bust economics are particularly welcome. So too are the changes aimed at improving stability, including giving operational independence to the Bank of England.

The sector has been hit hard by stop-go economics

Gordon Brown's recent Budget also drew plaudits from the building trade.

Its emphasis on investment and on long-term growth suits construction firms. The Chancellor's decision to allow the phased spending of local authorities' council house sales receipts will, the industry feels, lead to a regeneration of public house-building — a sector of the construction business hit hard in the Conservative years, and which is still showing few signs of improvement.

Equally, construction bosses like the cut in corporation tax — not just for their own firms, but as a new means of attracting investment to Britain — and the Government's welfare-to-work plans. The industry has seen more than 100,000 jobs go in the 1990s, but the recovery in its prospects means that it will now need to hire new people. Sir Martin Laing told *The Times* this week that the industry will need to hire at least 10,000 people over the next 18 months to two years, and he sees the welfare-to-work programme as something which the industry can support for its own benefit and that of out-of-work youngsters.

Building companies are happy, too, with "their" minister — Housing Minister Nick Raynsford, who is expected to attend today's Confederation launch. As a former housing activist before entering Parliament, he is seen as someone who knows the industry well.

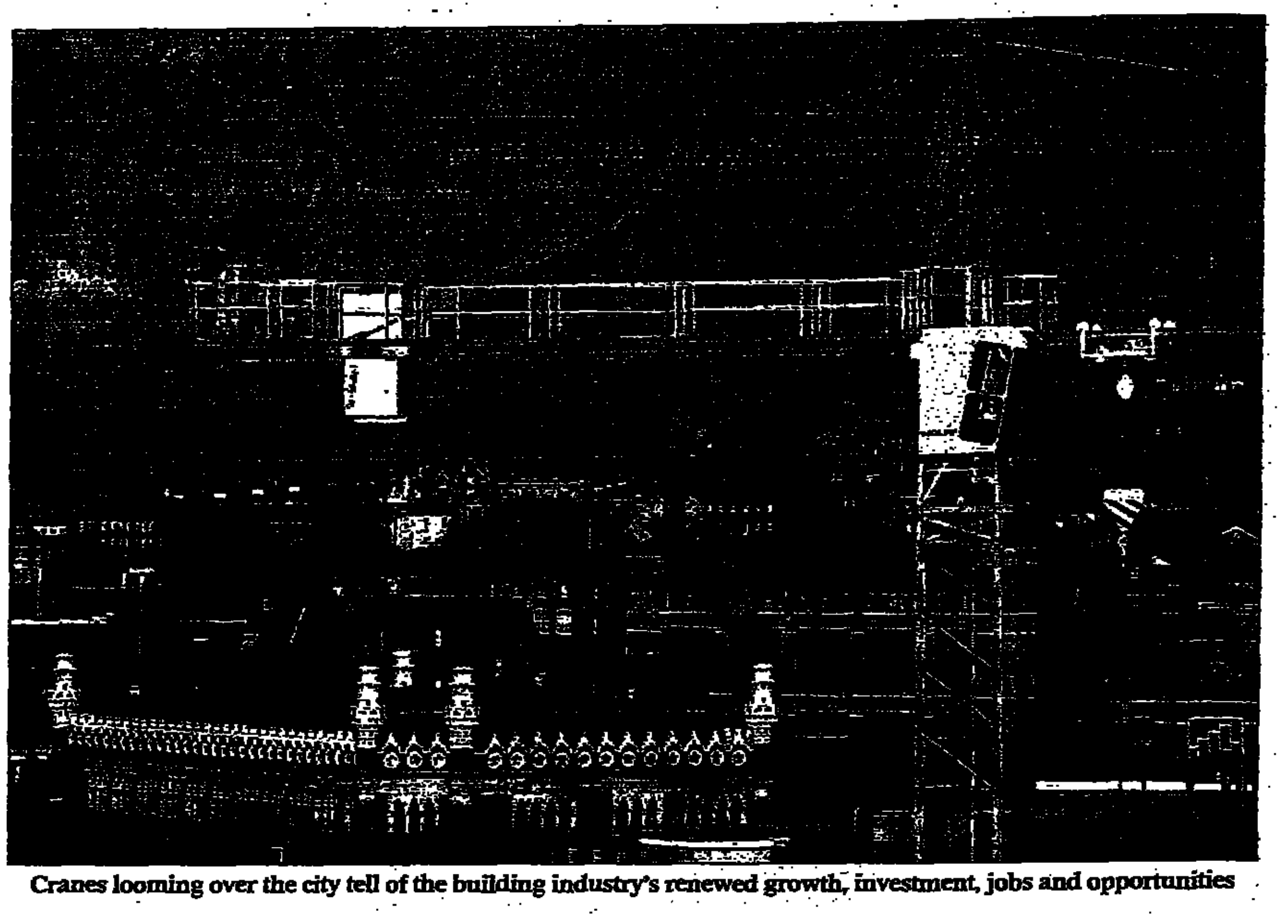
If all this sounds upbeat, it is — though the industry didn't like the increase in stamp duty and the scaling down of mortgage interest tax relief.

Partly the optimism is because business in construction is growing, though building leaders such as Sir Martin are sceptical about talk of a housing boom, pointing out that outside London and parts of the South East, there is as yet little sign of it.

Recession lies behind today's launch of the new umbrella body. For years, construction was the best example of incoherent business representation: a plethora of competing employers' organisations, immensely confusing to the trade, wasteful of resources and performing poorly in their relations with Government.

Eventually the large companies decided they had had enough. They told the competing employers' bodies that they had to rationalise themselves or the big firms would withdraw and cause their collapse. The building bodies have managed to respond to the challenge. The new Construction Confederation is moving to premises in the City, with a new spirit and new ambitions to represent construction companies as well as it can.

"Trade associations sound very 19th-century," says Sir Martin. "We have to make sure that what we are in the future is 21st, rather than 19th, century."



Cranes looming over the city tell of the building industry's renewed growth, investment, jobs and opportunities

An industry that's on the up and up

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

PROSPECTS for the UK's £55.2 billion-turnover construction industry are looking better than at any time over the past decade, *Stephen Hoare writes.*

An upturn in commercial property, renewed confidence in the private finance initiative, and lottery-funded schemes such as the Greenwich millennium exhibition are among the market forces buoying just about every sector of the industry.

While industry as a whole began to climb out of recession from 1992, it is only in the past year that construction started showing a growth in output. Orders over the past year rose by 20 per cent across the UK. Ian Deslandes, chief executive of the Construction Confederation, says: "We're in the early stages of a recovery. The next two to three years will see construction growing along with GDP at the modest rate of 2.5 per cent and that is an encouraging prospect."

As economic output grows construction follows. An increase in commercial activity creates the demand for more offices and factories; a rise in consumer spending sparks retail development. With sectors like housing more complex economics are at work. John Stewart, an economic adviser to the Construction Confederation, says: "Private housing is dependent not only on real income growth but on factors like the health of the housing market, the mortgage rate and the employment situation."

Some of the biggest rises in output have been seen in the southeast of England where private housing construction leads the field with a rise of 15 per cent over the past year and a £1.4 billion turnover. London has seen some of the fastest growth over the past year — notably the 27 per cent growth in infrastructure construction — helped by massive projects like the Jubilee Line extension and the Heathrow Express — and a 22 per cent rise in commercial property development.

There has also been a surge in the private repair and refurbishment sector as commercial premises are upgraded and redundant city-centre office buildings converted to luxury apartments or hotels. The biggest part of this sector's workload is accounted for by small-scale building. Construction Forecasting and Research (CFR) is concluding a survey into the market and estimates activity to be in the region of £12 billion.

According to the Office of National Statistics figures, 56 per cent of all new investment last year was construction related. Construction's share of GDP looks set to grow higher under Labour.

Last month's budget contained welcome news for housing and schools. Local authorities were told they were free to release £5 billion in capital receipts to fund new housing and the refurbishment of run-down stock — a move designed to tackle the £18-20 billion repair backlog in social housing and the 70,000 a year shortfall in the building of new rented accommodation. Education received a £2 billion bonus, most of it earmarked for repairs to school buildings.

The speedy review of PFI led by Malcolm Bates, chairman of Pearl Group, and the setting up of a Treasury task force promises to fulfil the last government's target of £14 billion of PFI projects signed up or completed by the end of the next financial year, 1998-99. The decision to go ahead with 14 major hospitals schemes paves the way for a £1.3 billion injection of private capital into the health service.

Added to this, the operation of PFI roads, prisons, government offices, schools and colleges has laid the foundations for a multi-billion pound facilities management (FM) sector — a field the construction industry is set to dominate. Neil Ashley, chairman of construction and FM group Amy, says: "Facilities management is very much what these PFIs are about — the long-term management of an asset."

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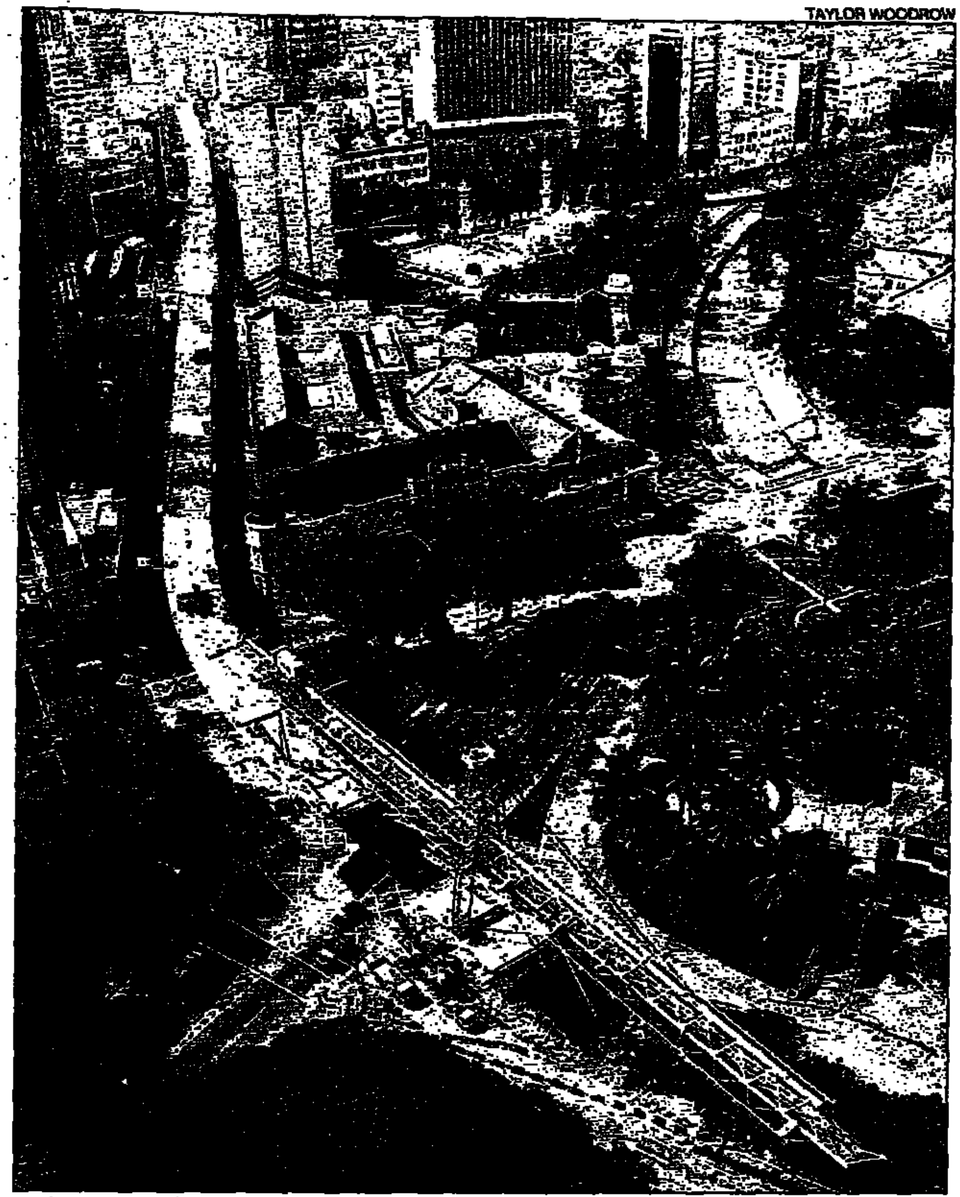
PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE

Outside funds will help boost public works


TAYLOR WOODROW

The Kuala Lumpur railway system in Malaysia is a fine example of joint enterprise

If there was ever a time the construction industry feared an incoming Labour Government, the speed with which it picked up and ran with Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) has removed any lingering qualms.

Like the construction industry, it recognises private finance is the only practicable way of providing public services and infrastructure. Neville Simms, Tarmac chief executive and chairman of the Major Contractors' Group, says: "PFI is healthy for Britain and it is healthy for the construction industry".

A founder member of the Government's PFI panel, Mr Simms has been a leading influence in shaping PFI since 1992. Tarmac is one of a clutch of construction companies prominent in the consortiums set up to raise finance, design, build and operate big PFI projects.

He was heartened when the review of PFI led by Malcolm Bates, chairman of Pearl Group, promptly accepted all the industry's recommendations and announced the setting up of a Treasury task force to educate public-sector clients in the process.

The recent announcement that only 14 out of an original 43 big hospital schemes were to go ahead has at least brought certainty to the market, and in the education sector barriers to PFI are quickly coming down.

In future such schemes have to demonstrate a genuine public need and a strong business case.

So can the construction industry deliver? Backed by big financial institutions and equity funds, the PFI consortiums seem to have no shortage of venture capital for schemes above the £20 million mark. Most major contractors have set up facilities management (FM) subsidiaries capable of operating and maintaining schemes once they are built. But contractors could find themselves financing small local-authority schemes unless these can be made attractive to the investment banks.

Mr Simms warns: "Major contractors are prepared to take risks, but if the construction industry doesn't dig into its pockets now to fund the PFI process it won't happen. Constructors have also seen their traditional public-sector workload put on hold as schemes were market tested. Mr Simms reckons that over the past four years £4 billion of public-sector contracts have been cancelled, adding hardship when the construction industry was stuck in recession.

'PFI is good for UK and industry'

The huge costs of bidding for PFIs speak for themselves. By the time the deal was signed, Tarmac's £115 million bid to build Dartford and Gravesham hospital had swallowed up £2 million — mostly in legal fees and consultancy as well as the detailed design needed to guarantee cast-iron build costs.

This level of costs is a constraint on how many PFI schemes a contractor can take on. Taylor Woodrow is currently handling seven projects at various stages. Director Brian Hendry says: "We don't spend money like this up front unless we're pretty sure of the likelihood of bringing the project to a close. Most of the costs come in the final stages."

A partnership approach would help contractors save on the costs of bidding and enable them to tackle more projects.

Working closer together, public and private sectors can streamline the bidding process, standardise contracts and bring projects quickly to a close. The construction industry is well placed to identify areas where innovative design can reduce lifetime costs of a building and make operating easier and more efficient. The Government, for its part, has to accept the responsibility arising from future changes in legislation. Mr Simms says: "A partnership between the public and the private sectors means risk is transferred to the party best capable of managing it."

Neville Simms: Major Contractors

With risk comes the reward. PFI opens three new business activities to the construction industry. By taking equity stake in the projects, contractors are acquiring assets that could one day be traded.

Then there is the increased design capability and the operating and maintenance contracts, which look set to provide construction companies' FM arms with assured workloads throughout the 20 to 25-year duration of the PFI concessions. Mr Simms says: "We're expecting each of these operations to make a profit."

But PFI is a global market, and one where British contractors earned their spurs. Many, like Taylor Woodrow's £300 million Kuala Lumpur light-rail system, are far bigger than anything Britain has to offer. Mr Hendry says: "If it proves too difficult to get PFI projects to a close in the UK, contractors could turn their attentions overseas."

STEPHEN HOARE

Amanda Loose reports on new techniques and attitudes in the industry

Satellites come into the picture

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Innovation is becoming a buzz word in the construction industry, but will we soon be able to order our own des res, built for us by robots, and delivered lock, stock and barrel to the site of our choice as the Japanese do? Whatever the outcome, most in the industry believe that advances in information technology — even the use of satellites — will probably lead to dramatic changes in the next decade.

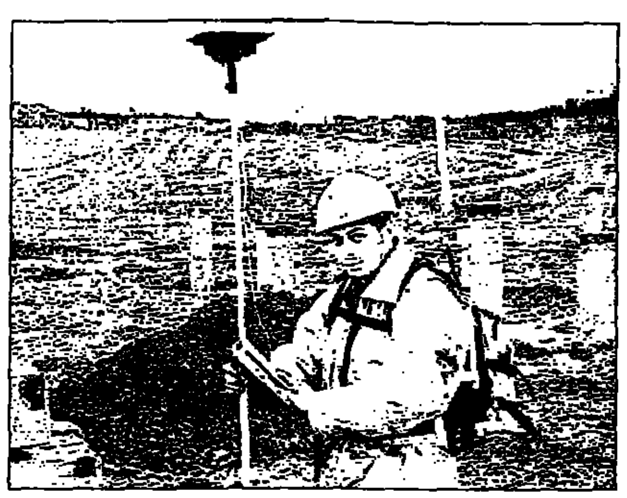
The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions spends £23 million each year on construction-related research. About £1.6 million is spent on promoting a climate of innovation and speeding the implementation of existing research results.

Trevor Higgs, director of the technical department at the Construction Confederation, says: "The last major innovations in the industry were in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Now concerns are threefold: cost and time efficiency, and environmental awareness.

"We are just starting work on a scheme to reduce waste on building sites, which will also reduce the landfill tax companies have had to pay since last October.

"One big contractor said recently that almost 20 per cent of their materials ends up as waste. We are looking at its recycling building materials at special centres to avoid waste."

Professor Alan Hooper of Nottingham Trent University, is conducting a study into industry and innovation, with trade organisations such as the House Builders Federation (HBF). He says: "Interest in innovation has increased in the past few years. Toyota has created a prefabricated house, designed to customer specification by computer-aided design, and built by robotic construction in a factory. They build about 4,500 of these each year."


High-tech: an engineer sites piles via satellite signals

Many UK builders such as Laing and Bovis have set up their own innovation departments, while the Building Research Establishment is about to appoint its first director of innovation and construction.

Information technology has had much influence on the construction industry. Brian Zelly, the group director of Laing's integrated engineering constructions unit, which looks at innovations as they develop, says: "We use computer-aided design to build a three-dimensional picture of the building as we go along. The computer is cost-effective because we know exactly what we need."

Laing is also looking at ways to simplify construction, using units such as the service chunks of air-conditioning plants built off-site, and delivered ready to connect. Modularisation is another possibility: designing a building in repeatable units, built off-site, with combinations that can be slotted together to create variations.

At Bluewater shopping and leisure complex, which is being built at Dartford in Kent, piles are being positioned by satellite.

Barry Burman of Lend Lease, which is working on construction with Bovis, says: "We have three satellite stations on site, and need four satellites to be in relatively close proximity. The co-ordinates of where the pile must be placed are stored in the on-site computer, and sent as a signal to the satellites.

When the signal comes down, and the co-ordinates lock on, the site engineers, with headset and probe, hear the bleep, and mark the spot. This gives an accuracy of plus or minus 20mm."

O'Rourkes, the frame contractor at Bluewater, has developed a precasting facility for many of the concrete columns and beams, while a precast shell is made for the load-bearing primary beams, filled *in situ*. Mr Burman says this has improved accuracy and raised construction rates by up to 20 per cent.

Building for the 21st century

THE FEDERATION

THE new Construction Confederation, the predominant representative organisation for one of the largest and most diverse sectors of British industry, came into operation at the end of last month.

The confederation comprises eight constituent organisations — the National Federation of Builders, the Major Contractors Group, the National Contractors Federation, the Civil Engineering Contractors Association, the Scottish Building Employers Federation, the British Woodworking Federation, the Federation of Building Specialist Contractors and the House Builders Federation.

Together these organisations have about 5,000 member companies, which are responsible for more than 75 per cent of construction work in Britain.

The confederation has four main functions:

- To represent the interests of its members to the Government, the European Union and European parliaments, as well as other decision-makers and opinion formers.
- To negotiate agreements on behalf of these organisations and represent their interests in bodies such as the Confederation of British Industry and the Construction Industry Training Board.
- To provide information and advice.
- To take appropriate action to promote the interests of the industry.

Ian Deslandes

Specific lobbying interests, which the Government has confirmed are on its agenda, include construction's role in the wider economy: the promotion of public-private partnerships; urgent action to improve the quality and quantity of training; the industry's contribution to the environment, and the wider use of partnering in construction.

Specialist departments will drive these policies forward through political and technical representations. These key departments comprise public affairs, employment, the law, and technology and the environment.

Ian Deslandes, chief executive of the confederation, said: "This new organisation will provide a unified and much more powerful voice with which to speak for one of Britain's largest and most important industries. It will enable construction, which accounts for half of Britain's total annual investment and is the largest single industry employer of labour, to punch its full weight in the quarters that matter. We are creating an entirely new organisation which will anticipate and meet our industry's needs in the 21st century."

Congratulations from one strong organisation to another.

Strength for the future

TAYLOR WOODROW

Hallam Contracts
'together we build'

Hallam Contracts wish the new Construction Confederation every success in their efforts to sustain and improve the industry reputation into the next millenium.

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Midland Bank wishes the new Construction Confederation every success for the future

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Construction Confederation
Speaking for the Industry

The Construction Confederation represents the interests of over 5,000 construction companies who carry out over 75 per cent of the total turnover of the UK construction industry.

Its mission is to promote and secure the interests of building and civil engineering contractors and to provide high quality and cost effective services to member firms to help them improve both their service to clients and their own profitability.

CONSTITUENT ORGANISATIONS
British Woodworking Federation
Civil Engineering Contractors Association
Federation of Building Specialist Contractors
House Builders Federation
Major Contractors Group
National Contractors Federation
National Federation of Builders
Scottish Building Employers Federation

Construction Confederation
82 New Cavendish Street
London W1M 8AD

Telephone 0171 580 5588
Fax 0171 631 3872
Internet Web Site http://www.construct-confed.demon.co.uk

EPA

UK firms are heavily involved in Hong Kong's new airport at Chek Lap Kok

Foreign contracts beckon

Steve McCormack on the rewards for UK firms who have the nerve to venture abroad

British contractors have a tradition of operating overseas. Today, British firms are active in more than 100 countries.

In terms of our international competitors, Britain's construction industry is consistently ranked among the top five. According to the latest figures from the Department of the Environment, total British construction industry exports for 1995-96 amounted to around £10 billion.

Of this total, overseas building and civil engineering contracts secured during 1995 were worth £5.5 billion, 45 per cent up on 1994 and 72 per cent more than in 1993.

However, these figures alone can give a distorted view, as the majority of British contractors have little or no interest outside the home market, and 90 per cent of all overseas income is earned by the top ten contractors. It is now acknowledged that exports must become more important to British contractors if the industry is to avoid the danger of further shrinkage.

According to Sir Frank Lampl, chairman of Bovis, the industry has tended to be too dependent on the domestic market for the past two decades. "The UK construction industry could be more successful overseas," he says. "But you can only expand worldwide if you have a sound basis in your home market."

OVERSEAS

Bovis is unusual among British contractors in having 60 per cent of its turnover, and about half its profits, from overseas projects. Of the overseas markets, North America remains the largest, accounting for 36 per cent of all new contracts in 1995. Other growing markets include the Far East, including China, with Hong Kong accounting for two thirds of work won there. Europe remains strong, while the figures show a decline for the Middle East and Oceania and static performance in Africa.

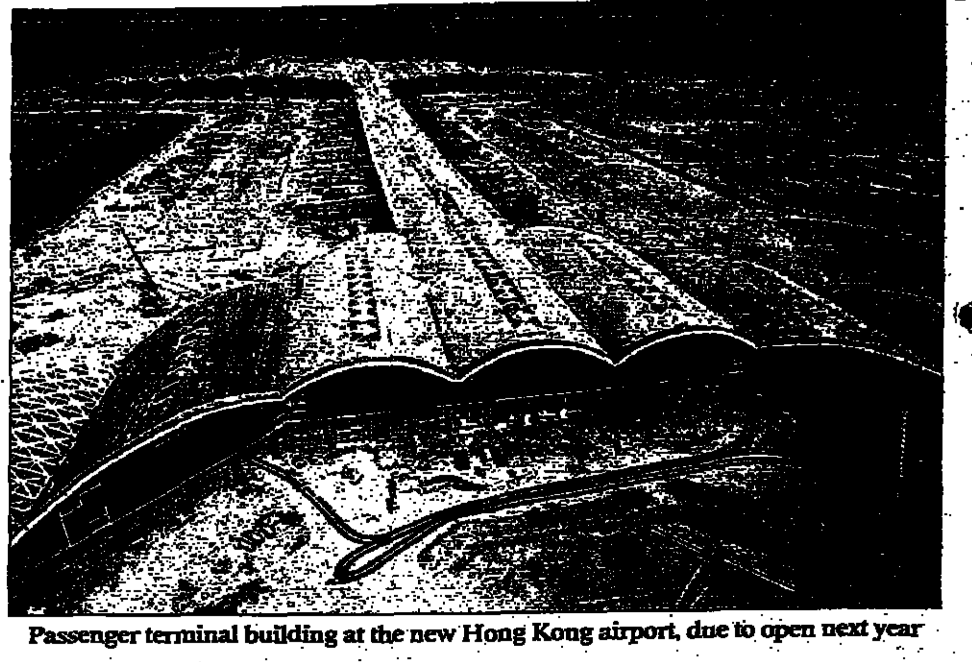
Some observers predict that British contractors will remain at a disadvantage on the world stage because of their relatively small size. Others argue that UK contractors are experts at establishing relationships with companies with whom they can cooperate.

"There is some concern in this age of large, privately financed projects that the smaller UK contractors will only be able to take on a limited number of them," says Alick Goldsmith, director of the Export Group for the Constructional Industries.

This trend is recognised by Frank Kennedy, managing director of Tarmac Construction International. He says: "The wider introduction of lump sum bidding and design and construct contracts mean that greater risks are now being passed on to the contractor. However, this can also be a good thing for the larger contractors working overseas as the rewards can be higher."

But if British contractors are to succeed in procuring big international projects, especially in the developing world, government support for British companies must become more effective. It must at least be equal to that enjoyed by our competitors, many of whom enjoy significant advantages due to their stronger and protected home markets.

According to Mr Goldsmith, all the industry wants is a level playing field. "Government support is crucial in winning business in emerging markets."



EPA

Passenger terminal building at the new Hong Kong airport, due to open next year

Don't get saddled with a cowboy

THERE is a lot that people can do to protect themselves against cowboy builders. *Rodney Hobson writes.*

As Stephen Moon, director at the National Federation of Builders, says: "When people employ builders they do not take enough time to check their reputations or get references. That leaves them open to exploitation. Nobody buys cars or holidays that way, yet building work can cost thousands."

Brian Tierney, national president of the Federation of Master Builders, agrees: "By evading VAT, income tax, National Insurance and levies, the black-economy builder can offer savings of up to 30 per cent.

"Members of the public go out to get a cheaper deal and get caught by the cowboys. There are customers who do not want to know you if you are registered for VAT."

Legitimate builders are trying to safeguard the public. The National Federation of Builders has set up its Construction Skills Charter Scheme, a register of qualified builders. Genuine builders will insure their work against defects, often accepting the cost of the premium.

Small legitimate builders still tend to get tarred with the same brush when cowboys are around, though, and Mr Moon says even larger companies can be tarnished. "The problem is at the small end of the market with companies that are difficult to trace, but the cowboys can price the larger

CONSUMERS

companies out of the market," he says.

"Large companies often have smallworks teams. Just because a job is small, it doesn't mean that a large company won't be interested."

Builders say that although there are builders operating in the black economy who do a good job, cowboys and the black economy tend to grow in tandem, as both offer the customer a cheaper deal. Many complain bitterly that Brussels and Westminster have neglected the situation.

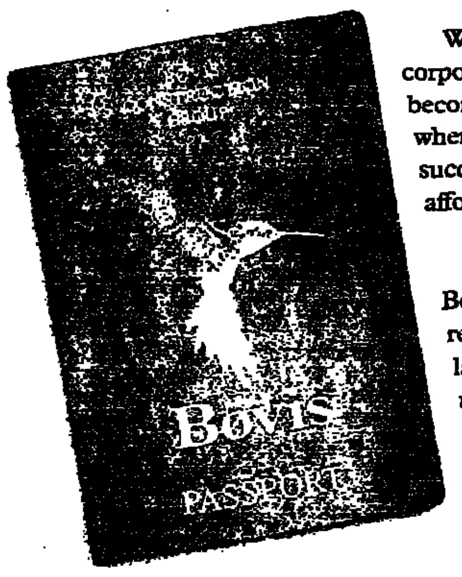
Mr Moon and Mr Tierney both believe the European Union and the British Government must support the building industry in stamping out cowboys.

Mr Moon says: "The Government has indicated that if the building industry does not put itself in order to allow consumers to distinguish good builders from the cowboys, then it will take action. That would probably come in the second or third year of the current Parliament.

"My fear is that legislation will harm the legitimate builder without touching the cowboy."

He adds: "Changes in consumer policy can only be part of a wider package. The level at which businesses must register for VAT is a major cause for concern. It is possible within EU guidelines to reduce VAT rates in cases of social need, and our housing stock is deteriorating."

● Be on guard against the cowboys: get a proper estimate; ask for the builder's telephone number and make sure it is a fixed line, not a mobile number; do not pay for the job before it is done; do not agree to buy your own materials; ask for references and check them; employ an established building company; inquire if the builder provides a guarantee backed by insurance; do not hand back the invoice — it will be sold illegally to a builder who can reclaim VAT.



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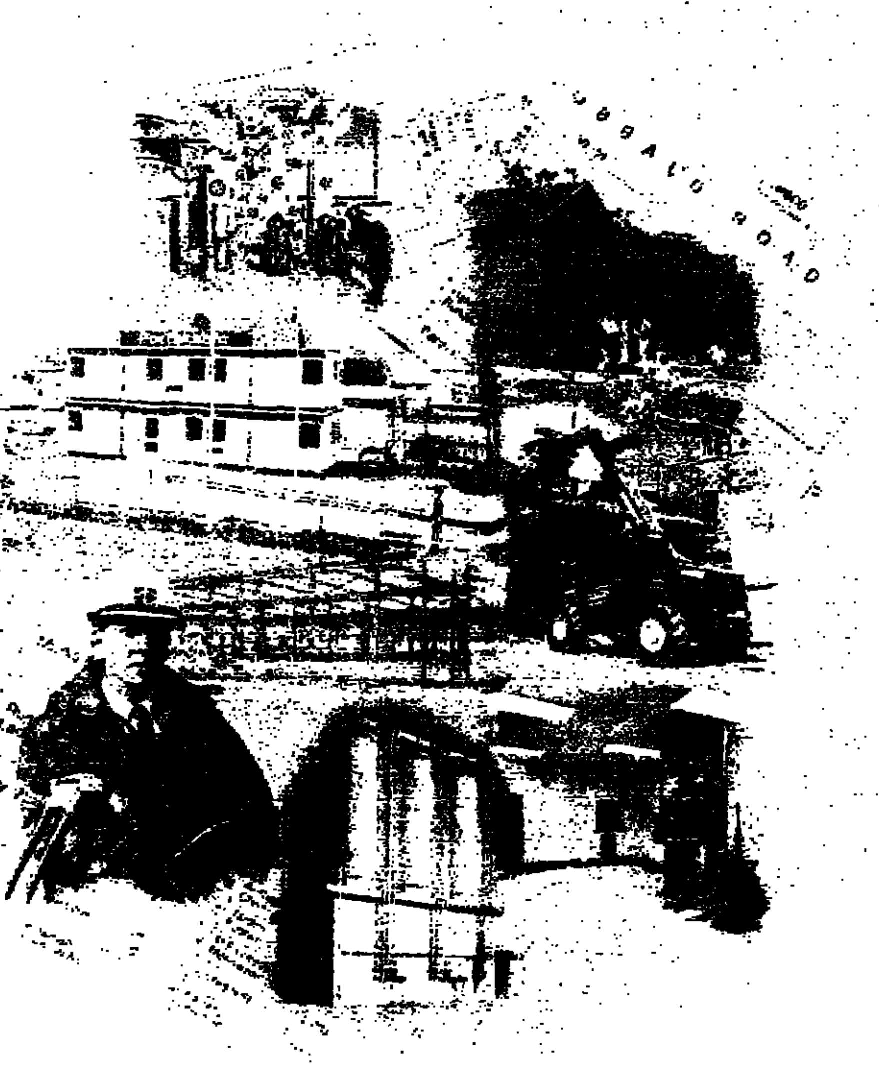

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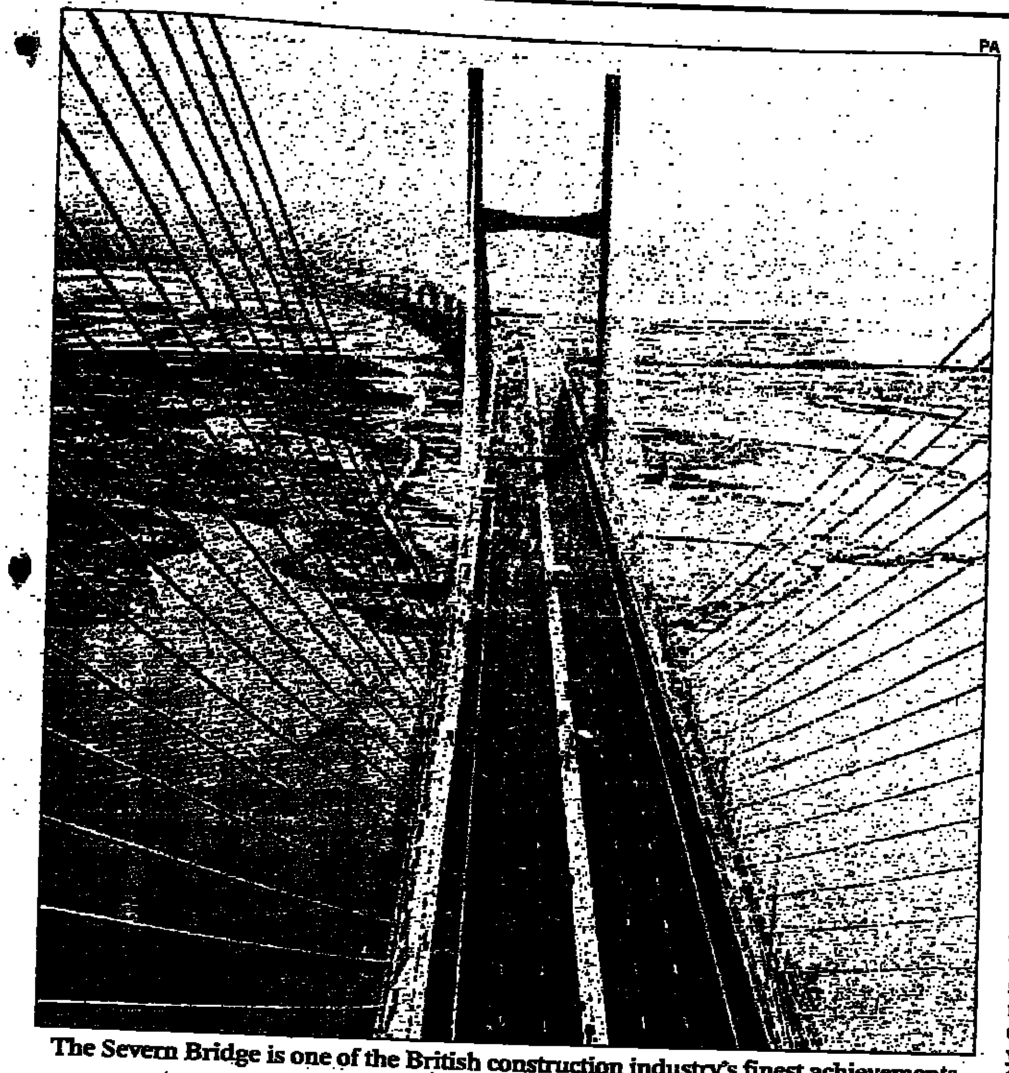
Time to bridge the gap

Civil engineering plays a crucial role in industry but badly needs investment, reports **Rodney Hobson**


PA

The Severn Bridge is one of the British construction industry's finest achievements

The dividing lines are blurring between civil engineers and others in the construction industry such as architects, builders, maintenance companies and financiers — and that is good for the industry as a whole.

So says Peter Andrews, chairman of the Civil Engineering Contractors Association. "People have got to be bold enough to see their roles changing just as everything in life is changing at a pretty fast rate," he adds.

"We can combine our skills to produce a better construction industry. We need to remove confrontation between different disciplines as much as we can."

Mr Andrews believes that greater teamwork will help to improve the poor though improving safety record in the construction industry. It will also help to improve training and to attract more recruits.

"Training is something that the industry has not supported through the recession," he says. "It is a budget that is relatively easy to cut. You can do that for a while, but when you want to turn on the tap as things get better the trained civil engineers will not be there.

"We have to start at schools and make the industry more attractive. The knowledge that careers masters and mistresses have of civil engineering is very sketchy. It does seem difficult to attract girls into the industry and the position is improving only slightly. We would benefit from having a lot more females at every level."

Mr Andrews wants to hammer home the message that civil engineers are vital for the comfort and wellbeing of the public and UK plc.

"Transport infrastructure such as roads, rail, harbours and airports, and even the humble sewage system are built and maintained by civil engineers," he says. "There is very little that people do in life that does not depend on civil engineers."

RECRUITMENT

Mr Andrews fears that although we are still building roads, not enough cash is being provided to maintain what we have already, let alone add to the road network. He also believes that the country must find the political will to produce a balance between road and rail. "We are a trading nation and it is right that we should provide infrastructure so we can import and export," he says. "There is now a hunger on the freight side of the railways that will put more business back on the tracks.

> The environment does not just belong to protesters in trees, it belongs to all of us

"We do not necessarily have to take freight off the roads in order to build up the railways because we are seeing an increasing amount of freight carried. We have to be able to cope with more movement of goods.

"The £16 billion that Railtrack is proposing to spend is obviously going to improve the standard of the rail network."

Rosemary Beales, the association's director, agrees that more money needs to go into road projects and that ways of raising finance must be found. "It is a false economy not to invest in the transport system," she says. "When bridges are closed because they need strengthening, traffic is diverted onto unsuitable roads. It takes longer to make the journey and damages the environment. Closing roads is the cheapest form of maintenance."

Mr Andrews adds: "Local authorities are spending far less than is necessary because of budget cuts. The easiest way to save money is to cut down on repairs to local roads but we must have an infrastructure that can support the economy. On country roads roundsmen used to clear the gutters so rain could run away into the ditch. The greatest enemy of roads is water. The Romans knew it but we have forgotten it. If this neglect goes on those roads will need total reconstruction."

While decisions on building new roads are ultimately the Government's responsibility, Mr Andrews does not believe that civil engineers can sit on the sidelines and absolve themselves from criticism by environmental protesters.

"We have a duty to try to help and put over our point of view," he says. "It's a wider role than sitting there and letting someone else decide. We have to ensure that what we do is as environmentally sensitive as it can be. There has always got to be a balance but the environment does not just belong to protesters in trees, it belongs to all of us. Bypasses built around small towns are of benefit to those who live and work there. Protesters who take the view that we must stop everything have got it wrong."

A bright future with new trainees

TRAINING

IT will take an imaginative and committed training programme to put construction back on the road to recovery. Between 1990 and 1996, during the worst years of the recession, the industry lost almost half a million workers throughout the UK — people who left the industry for other employment and who will never return. *Stephen Hoare writes.*

Poised for recovery, the construction industry must boost training efforts if it is to avert serious skills shortages. Paul Shepherd, chairman of the Constructors' Confederation, says: "We lost a generation of apprentices. That situation now needs to be recovered."

Any skills shortages will appear first in Greater London and the southeast where a mini boom in commercial and private housing is supplementing projects such as the Jubilee Line Extension and the Heathrow Express. The Greenwich millennium exhibition project will add pressure.

Committed: Paul Shepherd

During the next three years the industry aims to recruit and train 10,000 entrants a year — in addition to the 14,000 already going through the system — and is pinning its hopes on the Government's Welfare to Work programme paid for by the windfall tax on utilities.

The Construction Confederation and the Construction Industry Training Board are involved in creating a £140 million Welfare to Work package for the industry — extra cash that will fund six-month pre-training for 3,500 entrants a year.

The initiative will break the attitude of only recruiting school leavers aged 16-17. Under Welfare to Work, the industry will be spreading its net to attract 18 to 25-year-olds. The introduction of the modern apprenticeships and the new national traineeship to be launched in September will provide a comprehensive training programme up to NVQ level 3 for the new recruits.

Hugh Try, the CITB chairman, says: "We support the idea of Welfare to Work. Recruiting from an older age group would help offset the high dropout rate among 16 to 17-year-olds on construction training and bring much-needed stability."

Set up in the Sixties and one of only two industry training bodies to have survived, the CITB meets the needs of a fragmented industry. Major contractors no longer employ their labour directly. Most of their workers are supplied on short-term contracts from labour-only subcontractors. As a result, the bulk of workplace training is carried out by small firms of fewer than 14 employees. While the CITB's levy system channels money from employers to support industry training, work placement is a key concern.

With its five-year review of the CITB coming up next April, the Construction Confederation and prominent industry figures are setting down some markers.

Mr Shepherd, chairman of York-based Shepherd Construction, would like to see the training board getting tough. "My personal view is that the CITB levy should be increased dramatically so that if you don't train, it becomes expensive."

Last year the CITB distributed £36.2 million to employers in the form of training grants and a further £23.7 million via the Training and Enterprise Councils to support colleges and private training providers such as Tarmac and Jarvis.

The recession, coupled with tighter funding from TECs — Training and Enterprise Councils — has hit the college construction departments hard. Fourteen colleges have ceased construction training, while many more have cut back. Once gone, the training provision is lost forever.

Mr Shepherd says: "I'd like to see something bold from the Government: support for training that recognises that it is more expensive in terms of resources to train up a bricklayer than it is a computer programmer."

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The CITB is providing £38 million in grants this year for training in the construction industry.
We return £1.00 for every pound we levy, either as grants or other financial support. Our aim, which we know is shared by the Construction Confederation, is to ensure that the construction industry has the most competent workforce possible.
So we invest a further 60p for each pound of levy received because we generate extra cash elsewhere. The additional investment covers new entrant training, developing NVQs and SVQs, and general careers advice.
Our new entrant training programme is the largest in the industry with some 12,500 trainees on courses each year.
Through our Grants Scheme we offer everything from new entrant training for school leavers, including Modern Apprenticeships, through to new skills training for experienced personnel.
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To get an information pack or details on the Grants Scheme, all you have to do is contact the CITB on 01485 578 333, quoting ref TSA.

CITB Construction Industry Training Board

RACING: RAMSDENS ACT ON ADVICE FROM ASSISTANT TO CAPTURE VALUABLE SANDOWN HANDICAP

Visor helps Hawksley Hill scale heights

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

JACK RAMSDEN, master punter and husband of the trainer Lynda Ramsden, cannot abide blinkers being fitted to horses and he is not exactly wild about the use of visors. So it was with some trepidation that Andrew Balding, assistant to the successful Thirsk duo, dared to suggest last week that headgear should be applied for the first time to Hawksley Hill, their consistent handicapper.

However, the son of Ian Balding, the Kingsclere trainer, was the toast of the Ramsdens yesterday when Hawksley Hill, complete with a fetching blue visor, produced a career best effort to win the £90,000 Hong Kong Jockey Club Trophy at Sandown — the most valuable mile race ever run at the Esher course.

Apart from earning a share of the £40,000 first prize, Lynda Ramsden also won two free tickets and five days' stay in Hong Kong for the international races in December.

"A lot of the credit must go to Andrew [Balding], who suggested, not without some trepidation, over breakfast a week ago that we should try Hawksley Hill in a visor," Mrs Ramsden said. "Jack is not exactly enthusiastic about headgear and normally responds by saying he has never heard such rubbish."

Although a home workout with a visor made no discernible difference, the headgear enabled Hawksley Hill to give Jimmy Fortune an armchair ride yesterday. "He was always travelling supremely well and it was just a matter of the split coming at the right time," the leading northern jockey said.

The four-year-old, named after a hunting cover in the Zetland country, burst through a gap betwen Gold Spats and Bold Words to hit the front just inside the final furlong and won by a cosy half length from Supercal, who had been last turning for home. Hawksley Hill, carrying the colours of Paul Morrison, Sheikh Mohammed's northern spokesman, may make a quick reappearance in the Scottish Classic at Ayr on Monday.

While Balding junior had every right to be thrilled, Balding senior showed he has not lost his touch when completing a near 9-1 double on Rokeby Bowl and Commander Charlie, both of whom were strongly backed on course.

After missing all of last season because of a broken pelvis, Lord Of Men is on course to make up for lost time after winning the HBSC Trophy, despite giving his backers a scare two furlongs out. The John Gosden-trained runner appeared to be travelling sweetly in front for Frankie Dettori when he suddenly caught sight of a flock of ducks — and lost his rhythm.

For a moment it looked as though Silence Reigns might overhaul the hot favourite but, once Dettori gave him a couple of cracks, he lengthened his stride impressively at the furlong pole to win going away.

While the horses on view yesterday gleamed in the sunshine and looked in the best of health, there have been too many stories of late concerning former racehorses found to be suffering from neglect or ill-treatment. Not before time, the British Horseracing Board has decided to provide funds for helping such animals — as part of a package of welfare measures.

The initiative follows a report by the International League for the Protection of Horses, which concluded that, while there was no evidence of widespread abuse of former racehorses, racing should do more to deal with such cases.

JULIAN HERBERT/ALLSPORT

Hawksley Hill holds off Supercal to land the Hong Kong Jockey Club Trophy at Sandown yesterday

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: LIDO
(4.00 Bath)
Next best: Dummer Golf Time
(3.15 Leicester)

The Times Private Handicapper (Gerald Hubbard) found five winners at Yarmouth yesterday, including Raaha (15-2) and What A Fuss (4-1)

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.15 Go For Salt. 2.45 The Imposter. 3.15 Delight Of Dawn. 3.45 **INCHALONG** (nap). 4.15 Eagle Canyon. 4.45 Beau Venture.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.15 **GO FOR SALT** (nap). 4.45 Indian Relative.

GOING: GOOD — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE — SIS

2.15 MOUNTSORREL MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (£2,679: 1m 1f 218yd) (11 runners)

101	(3)		PEARL SILK 160J T Bill 4-9-2	T G McLaughlin	–
102	(2)		ANNOUNCING J Gosden 3-8-11	G Hind	–
103	(9)	32	BILLY NOMAITE 28 Mrs S Smith 3-8-11	D Pears	97
104	(8)	0	DUNSTON BILL 10 G Barrett 3-8-11	N Carlisle	–
105	(6)		KING PROTEA J Gosden 3-8-11	L Dettori	–
106	(1)	06	WOODY'S BOY 10 M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-11	S Drowne	80
107	(5)	345	GO FOR SALT 10 (BF) M Stoute 3-8-6	K Darley	[illegible]
108	(7)		JEWEL FIGHTER C Smith 3-8-6	V Slattery	–
109	(10)		LARK'S RISE H Candy 3-8-6	N Adams	–
110	(11)	0	MINSTER STAR 13 J Spearing 3-8-6	Dane O'Neill	–
111	(4)	03	SHILLING 31 A Stewart 3-8-6	M Roberts	63

6-4 King Protea, 11-4 Go For Salt, 11-2 Billy Nomaite, 10-1 others.

☐ Richard Quinn, stable jockey to Paul Cole, is likely to be out of the saddle for six to eight weeks after breaking a wrist in a fall from Balance Of Power at Brighton on Tuesday.

2.45 SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,469: 5f) (13)

201	(2)	0054	ANGRY ALBERT 14 (V) C Smith 8-11	C Lowther (7)	79
202	(9)		ASK SPEEDY SNAPS J Bradley 8-11	R Ffrench (3)	–
203	(1)	50	CORSECAN 10 S Dow 8-11	M Roberts	–
204	(7)	5	LAKE WOBEGONE 31 John Berry 8-11	M Fenton	–
205	(8)	04	MEANS BUSINESS 59 B Meehan 8-11	M Tebbutt	81
206	(10)	06	SUGGEST 104 (B) M Meade 8-11	F Norton	88
207	(5)	63	THE IMPOSTER 6 D Murray Smith 8-11	K Darley	[illegible]
208	(12)	53	AMINGTON GIRL 21 P Evans 8-6	J F Egan	96
209	(11)	3422	DAYNABEE 7 N Tinkler 8-6	Kim Tinkler	94
210	(13)	000	JEN'S IN THE KNOW 28 C Murray 8-6	D Sweeney (5)	–
211	(4)	0	LIONELS LUCKY LADY 31 J S Moore 8-6	M Henry (3)	78
212	(3)		PIP'S ADDITION J Glover 8-6	G Carter	–
213	(6)	0	ROMANTIC SECRET 40 R Juckes 8-6	V Slattery	–

7-2 Suggest, 9-2 Amington Girl, 11-2 Daynabee, 6-1 The Imposter, 7-1 others.

3.15 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE SERIES HANDICAP (Gentlemen amateurs: £3,500: 7f) (18)

301	(13)	240	BEANO SCRIPT 10 J Hanson 4-12-0	C B Hills (4)	94
302	(7)	006	DUMMER GOLF TIME 14 (CD,F) Lord Huntingdon 4-11-12	A Balding	90
303	(11)	1015	DOUBLE GOLD 9 (D,F,G) M Bell 3-11-11	C Ranson (4)	91
304	(14)	0010	SILVER LINING 10 (C,D,F) A P Jones 3-11-7	J Goldstein	91
305	(5)	6005	ATTARIKH 12 (B) Mrs A King 4-11-5	D McPhail (4)	98
306	(18)	4200	TULSA 10 (V) B Gubby 3-11-5	J Crowley (4)	[illegible]
307	(16)	5002	FAILED TO HIT 20 (B) N Littmoden 4-11-5	J Morris (4)	97
308	(2)	0/00	SASSY STREET 59 R J-Houghton 4-11-2	P Phillips (4)	–
309	(12)	0220	MEZZORAMIO 27 (V,CD,F) K Morgan 5-11-1	R Thornton	92
310	(4)	0402	DELIGHT OF DAWN 10 E Wheeler 5-10-13	J Dewhurst (4)	96
311	(10)	6005	SMART GUEST 13 (F,G,S) D Shaw 5-10-12	S Durack (4)	92
312	(1)	030-	RISE UP SINGING 334 (B,D) W Musson 9-10-12	T McCarthy	90
313	(15)	0231	WELCOME HEIGHTS 12 (S) M F-Godley 3-10-9	R Walley	91
314	(9)	0360	ASTERIX 6 (B,D,F,G) J Bradley 9-10-6	A Evans (4)	92
315	(17)	0014	LORINS GOLD 20 (F) A Turnell 7-10-2	J Rees	97
316	(8)	4060	SARUM 16 (D,F) J Long 11-9-12	T Waters (4)	92
317	(3)	0380	EURO SUPERSTAR 8 S Dow 3-9-12	R Guest (4)	98
318	(6)	0000	PERSEPHONE 27 (B) J L Harris 4-9-7	V Lukaniuk (4)	–

5-1 Welcome Heights, 6-1 Lorins Gold, 13-2 Delight Of Dawn, 10-1 others

3.45 TATTERSALLS AUCTION NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £3,535: 5f 218yd) (12)

401	(8)	0001	KING DARIUS 16 (D,S) R Hannon 9-7	Dane O'Neill	83
402	(2)	334	WHISKY MACK 17 R Hannon 9-6	R Hughes	89
403	(11)	5333	LAKELAND PRIDE 27 P Evans 9-5	J F Egan	89
404	(10)	113	JACKERIN 64 (V,F,G) B Rothwell 9-4	M Fenton	97
405	(1)	444	THE GROVELLER 13 P Evans 9-3	W J O'Connor	91
406	(7)	004	WHACKER-DO 17 R Hollinshead 8-10	J Carroll	82
407	(5)	1135	WHO NOSE 5 (B,CD,F,G) B Meehan 8-8	M Tebbutt	97
408	(9)	300	O' HIGGINS 79 R Boss 8-8	K Darley	90
409	(6)	4820	PATRICIA OLIVE 8 M Tompkins 8-4	M Henry (3)	95
410	(3)	0405	MUJA'S MAGIC 8 K Ivory 8-4	N Adams	95
411	(12)	5212	INCHALONG 6 (D,G) M Brittain 8-4	G Carter	[illegible]
412	(4)	002	STRAVSEA 14 B Baugh 7-11	N Carlisle	95

9-2 Inchalong, 5-1 Jackerin, 11-2 King Darius, 7-1 Lakeland Pride, 8-1 others.

4.15 CLAIMING STAKES (£2,595: 1m 4f) (9)

501	(2)	0261	WELSH MILL 13 (D,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-9-13	K Darley	[illegible]
502	(6)	2350	EAGLE CANYON 6 (D,F) B Hanbury 4-9-9	W Ryan	98
503	(9)	0600	NIKITA'S STAR 5 (B,D,F) D M-Smith 4-9-9	Dane O'Neill	80
504	(8)	0-54	TWO SOCKS 13 (F) J King 4-9-5	G Carter	90
505	(3)	0634	ROCK THE BARNEY 13 (C,D,F) M Usher 8-9-3	D McCabe	80
506	(4)	4046	ENGLISH INVADER 17 (D,S) C Dwyer 6-9-1	R Hughes	97
507	(5)	0-0	QUALITAIR BEAUTY 10 L Siddall 4-8-10	T Siddall (7)	–
508	(1)	00-	JENDALI PRINCESS 241 T Bill 4-8-8	T G McLaughlin	–
509	(7)	320	LITTLE MISS ROCKER 13 I Balding 3-8-2	R Ffrench (3)	96

11-4 Eagle Canyon, Welsh Mill, 4-1 Rock The Barney, 5-1 Two Socks, 8-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Stoute, 16 winners from 63 runners, 25.4%; J Gosden, 13 from 65, 20.0%; R Hannon, 30 from 172, 17.4%; S Bowring, 5 from 30, 16.7%; B Hanbury, 5 from 33, 15.2%; H Candy, 6 from 42, 14.3%.

JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 33 winners from 164 rides, 20.1%; Dane O'Neill, 7 from 48, 14.6%; J Carroll, 6 from 42, 14.3%; F Lynch, 6 from 47, 12.8%; M Roberts, 12 from 94, 12.8%; G Carter, 12 from 110, 10.9%

4.45 BURTON HANDICAP (£3,327: 5f 218yd) (20)

601	(3)	0044	INDIAN RELATIVE 19 (BF,D,F) R Guest 4-10-0	D Griffiths (3)	[illegible]
602	(7)	3003	DENBRAE 17 (D,F,G) D Murray Smith 5-9-13	C Lowther (7)	94
603	(19)	0040	BOLLIN HARRY 19 (D,F,G) T Easterby 5-9-12	J Carroll	98
604	(16)	000	PANTHER 13 (V,D,F,G,S) P Evans 7-9-12	J F Egan	93
605	(8)	0402	BEAU VENTURE 5 (D,F,G,S) B Palling 9-9-10	D Sweeney (5)	97
606	(9)	6021	MERANTI 5 (D,F,G) J Bradley 4-9-9 (7ex)	R Ffrench (3)	94
607	(20)	0-00	DOUBLE MATT 24 (D,F) Mrs P Sly 5-9-5	N Carlisle	90
608	(4)	0055	CRISSEM 14 (F) R Hollinshead 4-9-5	F Lynch	97
609	(5)	6000	SILVER PURSE 6 (V,D,F) A P Jones 3-9-1	J D Smith (3)	90
610	(6)	000	SAND STAR 29 (V) D Haydn Jones 5-9-1	S Drowne	94
611	(13)	3000	HANNAH'S USHER 33 (D,F,G) C Murray 5-8-13	Nicola Howarth	90
612	(11)	0416	SOUPERFICIAL 9 (V,C,D,F,S) N Tinkler 6-8-12	Kim Tinkler	97
613	(1)	0050	SIHAR 43 (D) J Carr 4-8-10	P Bloomfield	95
614	(10)	5040	NAPOLEON STAR 2 (B,D) S Bowring 6-8-10	D McKeown	95
615	(2)	000	MAY QUEEN MEGAN 6 (D,F) A King 4-8-9	D O'Neill	91
616	(14)	4000	LACHESIS 7 D Shaw 4-8-2	J Fanning	93
617	(17)	5466	COLLEGE NIGHT 6 (D,F) S C Williams 5-8-2	M Henry (3)	95
618	(12)	0060	SING WITH THE BAND 19 (F) B McMahon 6-8-0	M Roberts	92
619	(18)	0200	OHNONOTAGAIN 14 L Lloyd-James 5-7-10	N Adams	98
620	(15)	353-	MISS ARAGON 216 (D,G) Miss L Siddall 9-7-10	F Norton	86

13-2 *Meranti*, 7-1 Indian Relative, Beau Venture, 8-1 Denbrae, Bollin Harry, Sing With The Band, 10-1 Crissem, College Night, 12-1 others

☐ Goretski made it five victories from his last six outings in the Low Green Handicap at Catterick yesterday. The Nigel Tinkler-trained gelding ran on in great style to defeat Johayro by 1½ lengths.

BATH

THUNDERER

2.00 Petoskin
2.30 Admirals Flame
3.00 Bayford Thrust
3.30 Montendre
4.00 Lido
4.30 Hill Farm Blues

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 LIDO.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Petoskin.

[illegible]

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS
DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.00 WHITE HORSE SELLING STAKES (£2,234: 1m 3f 144yd) (5 runners)

1	(2)	0031161	PETOSKIN 29 (D,F,S) (Mrs J Routledge) J Pearce 5-9-7	M Wigham	97
2	(1)	05-2043	SHABANAZ 13 (D,F,G,S) (Fayzad Thoroughbred Ltd) W Muir 12-9-2	J Reid	[illegible]
3	(3)	00-6500	YOUNG FREDERICK 138 (N Babbage) N Babbage 4-9-2	T Sprake	83
4	(4)		KIKA (I Goldsmith) K Bishop 4-8-11	B Doyle	–
5	(5)	0650/0-	MELOS 465 (R James) G Thorner 4-8-11	C Rutter	–

BETTING: 4-5 Petoskin, 7-4 Shabanaz, 10-1 Young Frederick, 14-1 Melos, 20-1 Kika.

1996: FLIGHT MASTER 4-9-2 S Sanders (7-4 fav) P Makin 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

PETOSKIN beat Castle Secret short-head in 5-runner claimer at Wolverhampton (AW, 2m). SHABANAZ neck and 5l 3rd of 6 to Welsh Mill in claimer at Haydock (1m 4f, good). YOUNG FREDERICK 18l 7th of 11 to Mustang in maiden handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 7f). MELOS last of 19 in handicap at Nottingham (1m, good to firm).
Selection: PETOSKIN

2.30 JAMES & COWPER ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED STAKES (£3,397: 1m 5yd) (4 runners)

1	(3)	100-050	ADMIRALS FLAME 23 (BF,D,F,S) (Hintlesham Racing) C Wall 6-8-4	G Duffield	93
2	(1)	2-10331	SWORD ARM 5 (V,D,F) (A Oppenheimer) R Charlton 3-9-0	T Sprake	[illegible]
3	(2)	0446	BLEWBURY HILL 18 (A Pye-Jeary) R Johnson Houghton 3-8-10	J Reid	96
4	(4)	D-43410	SCARLET CRESCENT 19 (D,F,G) (L Collins) P Walwyn 3-8-9	Pat Eddery	90

BETTING: 13-8 Sword Arm, 9-4 Blewbury Hill, 7-2 Admirals Flame, 9-2 Scarlet Crescent.

1996: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ADMIRALS FLAME 17l 12th of 13 to Sharp Rebuff in handicap at Warwick (1m, good). SWORD ARM beat Dulcinea neck in 11-runner handicap at Salisbury (1m, good to firm). BLEWBURY HILL about 10½l 6th of 9 to Always Alight in handicap at Goodwood (6f, good to soft). SCARLET CRESCENT beat Vanishing Trick 1¾l in 4-runner handicap at Nottingham (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start.
Selection: SWORD ARM (nap)

3.00 TOTE BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £5,792: 5f 11yd) (7 runners)

1	(7)	4316600	DANCETHENIGHTAWAY 26 (CD,F,S) (G Bosley) B Meehan 9-7	Pat Eddery	98
2	(4)	310-240	SABINA 26 (C,G) (The Queen) I Balding 9-5	J Reid	95
3	(3)	0-11041	CAUDA EQUINA 10 (CD,F,G,S) (M Foy) M Channon 9-1 (7ex)	P P Murphy (3)	98
4	(1)	003223	BAYFORD THRUST 10 (BF,D,G) (Mrs J Turner) J Berry 8-11	P Fessey (3)	98
5	(5)	3101-13	DOMINANT AIR 169 (BF,D,G) (N Greig) M Prescott 8-10	G Duffield	91
6	(2)	2212050	MANGUS 16 (D,F) (Danebury Stables) K C-Brown 8-7	Paul Eddery	[illegible]
7	(6)	0601366	ANOKATO 7 (B,D,F) (K Ivory) K Ivory 8-1	B Doyle	94

BETTING: 11-4 Cauda Equina, 3-1 Sabina, 4-1 Dancethenightaway, 9-2 Bayford Thrust, 13-2 Dominant Air, 10-1 Mangus, 12-1 Anokato

1996: MINDRACE 7-10 Martin Dwyer (12-1) K Ivory 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAUDA EQUINA beat Style Dancer ¾l in handicap at Ripon (6f, good) with BAYFORD THRUST (5lb better off) 1l 3rd. DOMINANT AIR 2¾l and short-head 3rd of 8 to The Wyandotte Inn in handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 6f). MANGUS about 4½l 5th of 18 to Prince Dome in handicap at Ascot (5f, soft) on penultimate start, with DANCETHENIGHTAWAY (3lb worse off) about 4½l 10th, SABINA (3lb worse off) 4l 14th and CAUDA EQUINA (8lb worse off) 5l 16th. ANOKATO 5½l 6th of 9 to Bowden Rose in handicap at Lingfield (5f, good to firm).
Selection: MANGUS

3.30 LONGLEAT CLAIMING STAKES (£2,618: 5f 11yd) (11 runners)

1	(7)	5-10054	MON BRUCE 34 (Miss M Van Balen) W Muir 3-9-4	Pat Eddery	82
2	(9)	00	JAY-EM-BEE 19 (E Hayward) J Bradley 4-9-2	A Whelan (3)	–
3	(1)	004000-	ROWLANDSONS STUD 234 (A Bosley) K Comerford 4-9-0	S Righton (7)	75
4	(5)	00-0509	HARD TO FIGURE 9 (CD,F,G,S) (J Mursell) R Hodges 11-8-12	P P Murphy (3)	93
5	(2)	641264	LUCKY DIP 6 (B,CD,F) (C Harper) D Elsworth 5-8-9	D Harrison	91
6	(6)	050223	MONTENDRE 8 (BF,F,G,S) (D Mort) R Hodges 10-8-9	J Reid	[illegible]
7	(8)	0	NIKKI STAR 34 (C Hill) C Hill 3-8-9	S Whitworth	–
8	(10)	0006/	VAPORIZE 719J (S Weston) D Hyde 5-8-9	R Havlin (3)	–
9	(3)	5462006	DELROB 10 (B,D,F) (Mrs E Haydn Jones) D Haydn Jones 6-8-7	A Mackay	76
10	(11)	030206	CHIEF'S LADY 22 (G Fry) J Bradley 5-8-4	T Sprake	72
11	(4)	56600-0	MOOR HALL PRINCESS 26 (R Brookhouse) N Babbage 3-8-0	N Varley	–

BETTING: 8-11 Montendre, 9-2 Lucky Dip, 6-1 Hard To Figure, 10-1 Mon Bruce, 12-1 Chief's Lady, 20-1 Delrob, 25-1 Moor Hall Princess, 33-1 others.

1996: TAFAHHUS 4-9-2 M Roberts (6-4 fav) M Polglase 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

MON BRUCE 5¾l 4th of 8 to Ivory Dawn in handicap at Goodwood (6f, good). HARD TO FIGURE 11l 9th of 15 to Cim Bom Bom in handicap at Pontefract (6f, good). LUCKY DIP 2l 2nd of 12 to Barranak in handicap at Salisbury (5f, good to firm) with CHIEFS LADY (21lb better off) 4½l 9th. MONTENDRE neck 2nd of 6 to White Emir in claimer at Sandown (5f, good to firm) on penultimate start. DELROB about 3¾l 6th of 15 to Goretski in apprentice jockeys' handicap over course and distance (good). MOOR HALL PRINCESS 30l 7th of 8 to Grand Hotel in maiden handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 1m 1f 79yd).
Selection: MONTENDRE

4.00 AVEBURY MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,793: 5f 161yd) (14 runners)

1	(14)	653	BANDBOX 12 (BF) (Bandbox Brigade) S Mellor 9-0	J Quinn	87
2	(9)	32	LIDO 13 (G Reed) B Hills 9-0	M Hills	[illegible]
3	(10)	600	REGALO 33 (Spanish Connection) D Hyde 9-0	R Havlin (3)	91
4	(13)	633	STRIDING KING 12 (P Taplin) M Channon 9-0	Pat Eddery	82
5	(11)		SON DANCER (High Wood Racing) N Smith 9-0	Paul Eddery	–
6	(12)		THOMAS O'MALLEY (C Washbourn) R O'Sullivan 9-0	A Procter	–
7	(2)		DOVER SOUL (R Marchant) P Makin 8-9	S Sanders	–
8	(8)	5	GAILY MILL 22 (Mrs I Balding) I Balding 8-9	S Whitworth	75
9	(5)	0	GINNIESHOPE 12 (P Wightman) S Knight 8-9	N Varley	–
10	(4)		MUSTIQUE DREAM (W Said) R Charlton 8-9	T Sprake	–
11	(1)	4060	SCENE 40 (P Dixon) M Meade 8-9	R Brisland (7)	70
12	(7)		TIARA (Roldvale Ltd) B Meehan 8-9	G Duffield	–
13	(3)		TIGGY SILVANO (M Quinn) M Channon 8-9	R Painter	–
14	(6)	0	TUI 12 (Dragon Industrial Services) D J Evans K McAuliffe 8-9	J Reid	–

BETTING: 6-4 Lido, 5-1 Tiara, 11-2 Striding King, 7-1 Bandbox, Mustique Dream, 12-1 Gaily Mill, Tiggy Silvano, 20-1 others.

1996: TUMBLEWEED PEARL 8-9 J Reid (4-11 fav) B Meehan 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BANDBOX 5¼l 3rd of 7 to Welcome Sunset in auction maiden at Nottingham (5f, soft). LIDO 1l 2nd of 14 to Little Indian in maiden at Haydock (6f, good). REGALO 5½l 8th of 12 to Petarga in auction maiden here (5f 7yd, good to firm). STRIDING KING 9l 3rd of 14 to Halmahera in auction maiden at Chepstow (6f, good to soft) with TUI 8l 10th and GINNIESHOPE 9l 14th. GAILY MILL 7½l 5th of 11 to Kawafil in maiden at Salisbury (5f, good to soft). SCENE 9l 11th of 20 to Premium Pursuit in maiden at Doncaster (6f, good).
Selection: LIDO

4.30 WESTONBIRT FILLIES HANDICAP (£3,054: 1m 2f 46yd) (12 runners)

1	(3)	6230-05	CLASSIC PARISIAN 59 (M Marchant) R O'Sullivan 4-9-13	A Procter	98
2	(6)	00-1201	HILL FARM BLUES 10 (CD,F,G) W Brisbourne 4-9-10 (6ex)	A Garth	94
3	(12)	14-0200	WHISPERING DAWN 10 (G) (W Ponsonby) C Brooks 4-9-9	P P Murphy (3)	89
4	(9)	34-240	SADDLERS' HOPE 30 (Cheveley Park Stud) J Fanshawe 3-9-6	M Hills	94
5	(8)	0540-52	YOUR MOST WELCOME 10 (D,F) (Mrs P Bedford) D F-Davis 6-9-2	P Fessey (3)	[illegible]
6	(5)	0/5-0	WAR SHANTY 63 (Harris Vale Racing Partnership) Lady Herries 4-9-1	J Reid	98
7	(11)	2035132	MONO LADY 8 (B,D,S) (Monolithic Refractories) D H-Jones 4-9-1	A Mackay	98
8	(7)	6-30	OFF THE RAILS 35 (Major M Wyatt) H Candy 3-9-0	C Rutter	97
9	(4)	0404-0	ELLWAY LADY 17 (Ellway Racing Partnership) I Balding 3-8-12	S Whitworth	80
10	(10)	0041224	CUBAN REEF 10 (D,F) (K L West) W Musson 5-8-10	J Quinn	94
11	(2)	60-603	BATHE IN LIGHT 45 (Conolan Partnership) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-8	D Harrison	93
12	(1)	4009-00	INDIAN NECTAR 13 (Mrs C Newman) R Brotherton 4-8-5	R Price	98

BETTING: 7-2 Hill Farm Blues, 9-2 Your Most Welcome, 11-2 Mono Lady, 13-2 Cuban Reef, 7-1 Saddlers' Hope, Bathe In Light, 10-1 Off The Rails, 14-1 others.

1996: ROYAL THIMBLE 5-8-8 Martin Dwyer (12-1) N Chance 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

HILL FARM BLUES beat Anak-Ku 3l in 10-runner handicap over course and distance (good). WHISPERING DAWN 12l 8th of 12 to Dizzy Tilly in conditions race at Windsor (1m 2f, good to soft) on penultimate start, with ELLWAY LADY (5lb worse off) 4l 11th. SADDLERS HOPE 4l 7th of 12 to Tessajoe in handicap at Thirsk (1m 4f, good). YOUR MOST WELCOME ½l 2nd of 13 to Hamilton in handicap at Windsor (1m 2f, good) with CUBAN REEF short-head and 1¾l 4th. MONO LADY 1¾l 2nd of 8 to Kristal Breeze in handicap at Folkestone (1m 4f, good to firm). OFF THE RAILS 5¾l 3rd of 8 to Timissa in maiden at Lingfield (1m 2f, good to firm) on penultimate start. BATHE IN LIGHT best effort about 6l 3rd to Lado in 14-runner handicap at Leicester (1m 2f, good to firm).
Selection: HILL FARM BLUES

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
R Charlton	17	47	36.2	Pat Eddery	30	113	26.5
J Berry	11	41	26.8	Paul Eddery	15	86	17.4
H Candy	4	17	23.5	J Reid	19	117	16.2
D Elsworth	9	39	23.1	M Hills	6	51	11.8
I Balding	16	76	21.1	S Sanders	6	52	11.5
Lord Huntingdon	6	29	20.7	S Whitworth	8	78	10.3

Blinkered first time

BATH: 3.30 Lucky Dip. LEICESTER: 2.45 Suggest, 4.45 Silver Purse.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

This hand is from the third round of the 1997 Gold Cup, in which a team containing five previous winners, including your correspondent, was beaten by a team containing Peter Donovan, the bridge correspondent of the *Daily Mail*. The humiliation is so unbearable that I've switched to chess.

Dealer North — Love all — IMPs

North:
♠Q952
♥A7
♦Q10
♣KJ732

West:
♠K103
♥KQ543
♦A974
♣10

East:
♠64
♥J1096
♦852
♣Q865

South:
♠AJ87
♥82
♦KJ63
♣A94

S	W	N	E
—	—	1C	Pass
1S	Double	3S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Contract: Four Spades by South. — Lead: king of hearts

I was West. It is debatable what I should have done over South's One Spade. As my hearts were so poor I decided it was better to show the two-suited nature of my hand, but that gave an important clue in the play.

Declarer, Peter Collins, playing with Donovan, took the ace of hearts, with Brian Senior (East) dropping the jack. Declarer continued with the queen of spades. That was the right play — with West marked as being short in the black suits it was possible that East had K 10 x x of spades, and playing the queen might enable declarer to pick up all of East's trumps.

I won the king (ducking is better), and continued a less than dynamic defence by returning a spade. That would have been wrong if the declarer had had five club tricks and East the king of diamonds, though it was better than the club switch found at the other table.

Declarer drew the remaining trump, and now the only problem was the club suit. Thinking from my double that it was likely I had nine cards in the red suits, which with the three spades I had already turned up with marked me with a singleton club, he played a club to the king. He continued by finessing the nine of clubs on the way back, to make the contract. Good play.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Academics win

A match between chess-playing VIPs divided into a team of Academics (basic qualification a degree from Oxford or Cambridge) and Philistines ended in victory for the Academics by 6½-3½. The most brilliant game was played by Daniel Johnson of *The Times*, who offered his queen to devastating effect against Steve Davis, the snooker player.

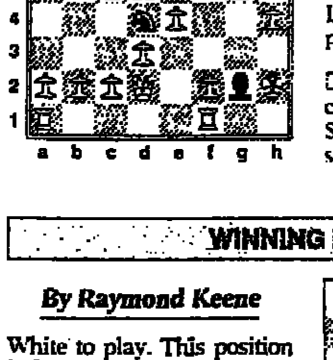
White: Steve Davis
Black: Daniel Johnson
Philistines v Academics
Pizza Express,
London Wall 1997

Giuoco Piano

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bc4	Bc5
4	0-0	Nf6
5	d3	h6
6	Nc3	d6
7	h3	g5
8	Nxg5	hxg5
9	Bxg5	Rg8
10	h4	Bg4
11	Qd2	Nd4
12	Nd5	Bf3
13	Kh1	Nxd5
14	Bxd5	Qd7
15	Kh2	Bxg2

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Here is a game by the second prizewinner at Dortmund.

White: Artur Yusupov
Black: Viswanathan Anand
Dortmund, July 1997

Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	d4	d5
2	c4	dxc4
3	e3	Nf6
4	Bxc4	e6
5	Nf3	c5
6	0-0	a6
7	Qe2	b5
8	Bb3	Bb7
9	a4	b4
10	Nbd2	Be7
11	Nc4	0-0
12	Rd1	Qc7
13	Bd2	Nbd7
14	Nfe5	Rfd8
15	Rac1	a5
16	Be1	Nxe5
17	dxe5	Nd7
18	f4	Ba6
19	Qc2	Bxc4
20	Qxc4	Nb6
21	Rxd8+	Qxd8
22	Qb5	g6
23	Bd1	c4
24	Bf3	Rc8
25	Qxa5	c3
26	bxc3	b3
27	Rb1	Qd3
28	Rxb3	Qxe3+
29	Kf1	Bc5
30	Qb5	Rd8
31	c4	Rd3
32	Qe5+	Kg7

White resigns

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MOBIUS STRIP
a. A nightclub
b. A single surface
c. Swedish football gear

KLEPHT
a. A brigand
b. A mountain goat
c. A Bulgarian road sign

CANNIZZARO
a. A musical direction
b. White Chianti
c. A chemical reaction

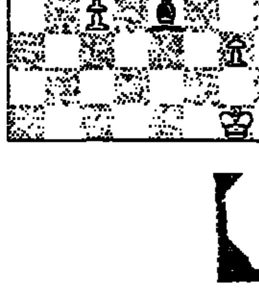
HAZARD CHASE
a. An obstacle race
b. Mark at royal tennis
c. An area of North London

Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Hommeles — Timman, Holland 1997. What is the quickest way for White to make use of his passed pawns on the queenside?



Solution on page 46

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Sandown Park

Going: good to firm

2.05 (1m 3f 91yd) 1, ROKEBY BOWL (L Dettori, 7-4 fav); 2, Forza Figlio (Pat Eddery, 4-1); 3, Khawafi (D O'Donohoe, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Technicolour (5th), 7 Smart Play (4th). 5 ran. ¾l, 3l, 2½l, 8l. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £2.30; £1.30, £2.10. DF: £4.90. CSF: £7.60.

2.35 (1m 2f 7yd) 1, LORD OF MEN (L Dettori, 1-2 fav); 2, Silence Reigns (J Reid, 14-1); 3, Papua (M Roberts, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Helicon (5th), 9 Ismaros (4th), 16 Bahamian Knight (6th). 6 ran. 2½l, nk, nk, 3½l, 7l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £2.40. DF: £6.00. CSF: £8.37.

3.10 (1m 14yd) 1, HAWKSLEY HILL (J Fortune, 10-1); 2, Supercal (D Holland, 50-1); 3, Gold Spats (J Reid, 12-1); 4, Bold Words (M Roberts, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 fav Dancing Image (6th), 11-2 Red Robbo, 7 Fly To The Stars, 10 Right Wing, 11 Cosmic Prince, 14 Almushtarak, Harry Wolton (5th), Hornbeam, 16 Clan Ben, Lonely Leader, 20 Amrak Ajeeb, 33 Concer Un, My Lewicia, 40 Saifan. 18 ran. ½l, 1¼l, shd, 1¼l, nk. Mrs J Ramsden at Thirsk. Tote: £14.00; £2.90, £9.90, £3.40, £4.90. DF: £519.90. Trio: £5,269.20. CSF: £434.93. Tricast: £5,609.40.

3.40 (1m 6f) 1, GEORGIA VENTURE (G Duffield, 9-1); 2, Silently (R Ffrench, 10-1); 3, Shining Dancer (J F Egan, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 3-1 fav Tudor Island, 5 Percy Isle (5th), 6 Bimsey (6th), 7 Mazurek, Midyan Blue (4th), 10 Bowcliffe Court. 9 ran. ¾l, 3½l, sh hd, 1l, 1¼l. S Woods at Newmarket. Tote: £14.80; £2.80, £2.30, £2.40. DF: £62.10. Trio: £226.90. CSF: £89.49. Tricast: £692.46. Tote

4.10 (7f 16yd) 1, COMMANDER CHARLIE (Pat Eddery, 5-2 fav); 2, Outsourcing (D Holland, 11-2); 3, Saeedah (L Dettori, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Radar, 9 Daring News, 16 Celestial Bay, Middle Temple (4th), Simiet (6th), 20 Lord Warford, 25 Fair Game, Prodigal Son, 33 King's Hussar, Shannon's Secret (5th), Zada, 66 Porthilly Buoy. 15 ran. 1½l, 1¼l, 3½l, shd, 3l. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £3.60; £1.70, £1.90, £2.60. DF: £10.80. Trio: £12.00. CSF: £15.28.

4.40 (5f 6yd) 1, FAITH ALONE (R Mullen, 100-30 fav: Thunderer's nap); 2, Willow Dale (R Cochrane, 11-2); 3, Taoiste (R Price, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Clan Chief, 7 White Emir, 9 Half Tone (4th), 10 Dande Flyer (5th), Lord High Admiral, 12 Hoh Returns (6th), 16 Kilcullen Lad, 20 Master of Passion. 11 ran. Nk, nk, ½l, ¾l, 2l. C Wall at Newmarket. Tote: £4.50; £2.10, £1.80, £5.00. DF: £10.40. Trio: £274.20. CSF: £19.96. Tricast: £292.57.

Jackpot: £10,097.00 (0.36 winning tickets). Pool of £9,101.60 carried forward to Leicester today).

Placepot: £426.60.

Quadpot: £270.90.

Catterick Bridge

Going: good to firm

2.15 (7f) 1, LEND A HAND (J Weaver, 1-7 fav); 2, On The Mat (J Carroll, 33-1); 3, Good On Yer (J Fanning, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 12 Rockette, Silver Joy, 25 Dougs Dream (6th), 33 Gay Abandon (4th), 40 Western Lord, 50 Czar Wars (5th), Mecca Princess, Mr Fund Switch. 11 ran. NR: Buzz. 11l, hd, 5l, ¾l, 1½l. M Johnston at Middleham. Tote: £1.10; £1.10, £3.90, £1.70. DF: £8.40. Trio: £19.90. CSF: £17.56.

2.45 (1m 3f 214yd) 1, MY MILLIE (T Williams, 7-2); 2, Durgams First (A Culhane, Evens fav); 3, Risky Rose (D Griffiths, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Havana Heights (4th), 14 Fox Sparrow, Petit Flora (6th), 33 Lady Silk (5th), Single Man. 8 ran. ½l, 11l, ¾l, 11l, 1l. D Barker at Richmond. Tote: £3.50; £1.10, £1.50, £1.70. DF: £4.30. CSF: £7.36.

3.20 (5f) 1, GORETSKI (L Charnock, 4-6 fav); 2, Johayro (J Quinn, 10-1); 3, Pleasure Time (P Fessey, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Swan At Whalley, 7 Bowcliffe Grange (6th), 10 Blazing Imp, 14 Captain Carat (5th), 20 Ramsey Hope, 50 Imp Express (4th). 9 ran. 1½l, nk, sh hd, 1l, 1¼l. N Tinkler at Malton. Tote: £1.90; £1.30, £1.70, £4.30. DF: £9.40. Trio: £56.20. CSF: £10.95. Tricast: £49.45.

3.50 (5f 212yd) 1, SPOTTED EAGLE (A Whelan, 11-4 jt-fav); 2, Sir Tasker (A Culhane, 25-1); 3, Henry The Hawk (J Carroll, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 jt-fav Sense of Priority (6th), 3 Docklands Carriage, 7 Silk Cottage (4th), 10 Juddy, Loch Style (5th), 16 Chalice, 66 Morning Star. 10 ran. 1¾l, shd, 1¾l, 2l, ½l. Martyn Wane at Richmond. Tote: £3.40; £1.10, £5.20, £2.60. DF: £33.60. Trio: £136.80. CSF: £72.68.

4.20 (7f) 1, MYSTIQUE AIR (J Quinn, 13-8); 2, Moon Fairy (F Lynch, 11-10 fav); 3, Daintree (Dale Gibson, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 100 Joyful Joy (4th), La Perdoma (5th), Pisum Sativum, Thewrightone (6th). 7 ran. 1¾l, 2l, 6l, 3½l, 3½l. E Weymes at Leyburn. Tote: £2.50; £1.50, £1.10. DF: £1.70. CSF: £3.49.

4.50 (1m 3f 214yd) 1, THE ROUNDSILLS (A Culhane, 8-1); 2, Kingdom Pearl (L Charnock, 8-1); 3, Hadidi (D McKeown, 11-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 Fullopep (4th), 4 Wildmoor (6th), 9 Marsh Marigold (5th), 12 Coral Island, 14 Gymcrak Gorjos, 20 Zanabay, 33 Tribal Mischief. 10 ran. ¾l, 4l, 1l, ½l, 11l. R Johnson Houghton at Didcot. Tote: £9.00; £3.20, £3.30, £1.90. DF: £22.90. Trio: £21.70. CSF: £69.37. Tricast: £207.38.

Placepot: £15.90.

Quadpot: £17.10.

Yarmouth

Going: good

1.50 (1m 2f 21yd) 1, Bluebell Miss (G Carter, 5-2 fav); 2, Soda Pop (4-1); 3, Northern Touch (11-2). 6 ran. 3½l, ½l. M Ryan. Tote: £3.00; £1.90, £2.80. DF: £5.10. CSF: £11.81.

2.25 (6f 3yd) 1, Headhunter (M Hills, 15-2); 2, Stone of Destiny (16-1); 3, Royal Rights (8-13 fav). 8 ran. 1¾l, 2½l. W Haggas. Tote: £7.50; £1.30, £3.20, £1.30. DF: £52.60. CSF: £113.23.

2.55 (1m 3yd) 1, Raaha (A McGlone, 15-2); 2, Go For Green (33-1); 3, Prima Verde (6-4 fav). 10 ran. 1l, 1½l. R Armstrong. Tote: £9.10; £2.60, £5.70, £1.30. DF: £148.30. Trio: £307.30 (part won. Pool of £95.23 carried forward to Leicester 4.45 today). CSF: £202.19. Tricast: £493.33.

3.30 (7f 3yd) 1, Blueygreen (G Hind, 6-4 fav); 2, Kalaf (9-4); 3, Seventy (11-2). 8 ran. ½l, 3½l. P Chapple-Hyam. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £1.40, £1.30. DF: £2.90. CSF: £4.52.

4.00 (7f 3yd) 1, Imroz (A McGlone, 7-4); 2, Serenity (9-2); 3, Kermist (8-1). Mechhed 13-8 fav. 5 ran. 3l, ¾l. H Cecil. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £2.10. DF: £5.40. CSF: £8.94.

4.30 (7f 3yd) 1, Yorkie George (K Darley, 7-2); 2, Intisab (9-1); 3, Tumbleweed Ridge (2-1 fav). 10 ran. 2½l, nk. L Cumani. Tote: £3.90; £1.60, £2.70, £1.80. DF: £11.90. Trio: £14.60. CSF: £35.20. Tricast: £74.16.

5.00 (1m 3f 101yd) 1, What A Fuss (J Stack, 4-1); 2, Burning (5-1); 3, Leading Note (100-30 fav). 9 ran. Shd, ¾l. B Hanbury. Tote: £4.20; £1.10, £1.10, £2.30. DF: £22.20. Trio: £28.60. CSF: £24.73. Tricast: £70.99.

Placepot: £7.80.

Quadpot: £3.10.

Yorkie George shortens up

YORKIE GEORGE, trained by Luca Cumani, was shortened in the betting for the Vodafone Stewards' Cup at Goodwood on August 2 after his impressive victory at Yarmouth yesterday. Coral reduced the three-year-old from 25-1 to 16-1 after he beat Intisab by 2½ lengths in the Filby Bridge Rated Stakes. Coral's bet: 4-1 Danetime, 12-1 My Best Valentine, 14-1 Clan Chief, 16-1 others.

Uttoxeter deal

BBC television has signed a three-year deal with Uttoxeter racecourse to cover its two major race meetings annually from 1998 to 2000. The contract features live coverage of two Grand National trials.

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Black day for athletics as selectors fail leadership test

If 400 metres running is the strongest arm of British athletics at the moment, leadership must be the weakest. The row that has erupted this week over the dropping of Roger Black from the individual event for the world championships in Athens next month says much about the sport as it limps from one public relations disaster to another.

Black missed the British trials because of a virus and it may be that he was never going to recover quickly enough to make the start-line in Athens. But he is now furious that he will be given no chance to prove his fitness and that, almost unbelievably, he learnt his fate not from the selectors, but from the press. "Nobody," Black said of the selectors, "had the foresight to say we had better give him a call."

At the heart of this sorry saga is the inane way in which his non-selection has been handled. Black was one of the few athletes to salvage some national pride from the Olympic Games in Atlanta last summer. There he ran with a maturity and commitment, admired by fellow competitors and the public alike, to take silver in the 400 metres.

He is a popular athlete who has had a long career punctuated by injury that would have forced many others to give up. But he came through to help set the stage for the new crop of 400 metres runners — Iwan Thomas, Mark Richardson and Jamie Baulch among them. He was a natural selection when it came to finding a successor to Linford Christie as captain of the British athletics men's team.

Christie was originally made "captain" by a somewhat bizarre procedure. It was a position that had never really existed in British athletics outside of the significant championships. So Britain went into the European Cup in Gateshead in 1989 with no one nominated as captain.

As the contest went on and it grew ever more possible that Britain might win, the officials realised that somebody would have to go up to collect the cup. Christie was made captain on the spot and has effectively remained "captain" since.

At the start of this season Black was named as the man to take over from Christie and he gave an illuminating analysis of what that might mean. "You could argue that the captain in athletics is not as important as in football, cricket or rugby, but that is changing," Black said.

"There have been problems in the past that should have been dealt with and, if young athletes had realised there was somebody they could go to to talk it through, the role would be a valid one. Linford has played that role with certain athletes and I hope I can do so with a wider spectrum.

"There is a communication part to be played with athletes, management and press, and one of motivating the troops. I think that has been missing the last few years. This is not a criticism of Linford because there has been no defined captain's role."

If the captaincy of Britain's athletics team is to be anything more than nominal, Black looks like the man who could make it so. He, along with Geoff Parsons, the high jumper, has been instrumental in setting up the British Athletes' Association, which has done much to broker peace between the British Athletic Federation and the athletes.

In a sport that has essentially been rudderless since the departure of Peter Radford, it is painfully obvious that men like Black are badly needed. We may have an embarrassing number of talented 400 metres runners, but we have a dearth of people who can run the sport.

From the instant that Thomas crossed the finishing line in a British record of 44.36sec, towing his fellow competitors to some excellent performances, picking the 400 metres team was always going to be a difficult call for the selectors. But that is what selectors are for. There was no simple answer. Baulch is a young and improving athlete. He is popular, a joker and a great character. He seems to be somewhat amazed at his hasty selection and it may well be that, by picking him in these circumstances, the selectors will have put him under more pressure than needed. It is tough to be labelled "the man who got Roger Black's place".

Black said: "I would never take a place from Jamie if I did not think I could do better than he could. He is running OK, but he has not broken 45 seconds this year, which I did 12 times last year."

Black had asked for time to demonstrate his fitness and the sensible path to take was to see how he performed in Hechtel, Belgium, this weekend. With Michael Johnson, the reigning Olympic champion, nursing an injury and likely to appear in Athens only courtesy of a wild-card entry, a healthy Black would present, along with Thomas, a serious medal challenge.

In its coverage of the British trials, Channel 4 featured a bookmaker quoting odds on the 400 metres. It would be interesting to see what prices they would quote if Black and Baulch lined up in Athens. It may well be that the selectors know their sport better than the bookmakers, but I would not bet on it.

Black says that "leadership lasts through the bad times as well as the good times". If he recovers from his virus and makes the 4 x 400 metres team, he intends to play his part as captain in Athens. Black should do that, with his head held high. British athletics is sadly in need of men like him. On the track he has already won an Olympic silver medal for his 400 metres running. He could yet win gold for leadership.

GOLF: FORMER CHAMPION REACHES MAJOR CROSSROADS

Faldo must fear that strife begins at 40

By Mel Webb

ONCE upon a time, not so long ago, it seemed that Nick Faldo's constant pursuit of the perfect swing would be his passport to winning a hatful of golf's greatest prizes. No more. These days, it is more pertinent to wonder if time has, perhaps, run out on him before he has got it right.

Faldo is one of the best British golfers of all time — six victories in major championships attest to that — but with the second day of this 126th Open Championship coinciding with his birthday tomorrow, it is right to ponder if life for the pride of Welwyn Garden City has ended, and not begun, at 40.

It might sound a little extreme to suggest that if Faldo is destined no longer to be a winner of major championships, then his sporting life is effectively over. But it is not, for his professional credo is winning, commanding admiration, treading where no British golfer has been before.

The fortieth birthday is classically a time for assessment. For many it is a crossroads from which they can either take the right turning and get where they are going, or get it wrong and find themselves in a cul-de-sac. Faldo wants the former with a passion. The fear for this most dedicated of golfers is that he may have reached not a blind alley, but the end of the road as a contender in the tournaments that truly matter to him.

Faldo is a dedicated man on a lifelong mission to prove himself against a world that he sometimes seems to believe is hostile to him. In his dogged, bloody-minded way, he might even prefer it so: ambitions easily gained are not worth aiming for in the first place.

Most people need to be liked. Not Faldo. What he craves is respect, not affection. His dearest wish is that one day people would be proud that they had seen him at his best. Like every other human being, Faldo has flaws. He who has none is either a saint or terminally boring. He knows that he is neither, but if boring means winning, he will settle for that.

Even as he moves through the last 24 hours of being thirty-something, Faldo is still in search of nirvana, that blissful state of peace that is coveted by many but attained by precious few. He has achieved much in his 39 years and 364 days, but it is not enough. His life outside the game may be carpeted with roses, but without the fertiliser of victory they may be losing their bloom.

The suspicion is that, even though he might be comfortable with his new life in the United States, Faldo still feels unfulfilled. The plasma from which he draws his lifeblood is the winning of major championships, and as he tees off today he must be wondering if he may have shouted his last hurrah, for he is undoubtedly not the player he once was.

He has done little of note since he won the Nissan Open in Los Angeles early in the season and, in an attempt to rekindle a faltering touch on the greens, he has gone back to a favourite putter with which he won the Masters in 1989 and 1990 and the Open in 1990. There are sound technical reasons why he has returned to his old ally; superstition tinged with desperation may also have played their part in his decision.

Faldo is a firm believer in the work ethic. If dedication brought its due reward, he would have won a dozen major championships and more. Many would give their eye teeth to have won six, but it is not sufficient for this singular man.

He wants more, and more yet, and not even his faithful coach, David Leadbetter, may be able to give it to him. At times in the past decade the temptation has been to scream aloud when he suggested for the thousandth time that all that was needed for the definitive performance was a little more "fine tuning with Lead", a sort of golfing Gregorian chant, a nostrum for an ailing spirit.

As he opens his 22nd Open Championship campaign it is a mantra that is beginning to sound a little hollow. He may be on the verge of another glorious chapter in a golden career; on the evidence of the past few months, it seems unlikely. Contented he might be, but if he really has passed the Major Road Ahead sign for the last time, can he be truly happy? Surely not.

MARC ASPLAND

Faldo seeks Leadbetter's advice at Royal Troon yesterday

Cup deadline puts pressure on Pavin

By Mark Souster

THERE are two enduring images of Corey Pavin: the aggressive Californian who, bedecked in Desert Storm peaked cap, took gamesmanship and sporting jingoism to its limit during the infamous "War on the Shore" at Kiawah Island in the 1991 Ryder Cup; and the little man who, having fired a superb four-wood to the 18th green on his way to winning the 1995 US Open, raced up a hillock to see his ball stop five feet from the flag.

Little has been heard of Pavin since. That US Open victory at Shinnecock Hills heralded the beginning of a slump that can immediately follow success. Although he won the Colonial tournament in 1996, this year has been his worst of the decade. Pavin, 37, has managed only one top-ten finish in 25 tournaments and won a paltry $81,464. He stands 136th in the US money-list but, of greater significance is the fact that in Ryder Cup year, he is only 37th in the points table. Unless there is a dramatic and immediate improvement, Tom Kite, the US team captain, with whom Pavin played a practice round at Royal Troon on Tuesday, will be hard-pressed to pick him as one of his two wild-card choices for Valderrama in September.

"Knowing that I have been slipping out of Ryder Cup contention has been the most difficult thing to deal with. I really want to be on the team again and I have just got to play well," Pavin, who accepted an invitation from Kite to play at Valderrama last Sunday, said. "Tom is obviously thinking about picking me, but at the moment I don't believe he could.

"I haven't played well for almost a year now; I lost confidence in my swing and when that happens it is a gradual process to get it back. I'm pretty confident that things are back on the right track for me." The question remains, though: what prompted the sudden downturn? Various theories abound. Some say that a change of clubs did not help, nor dispensing temporarily with the services of his coach, Chuck Cook. Others believe that having shed the tag of the best player never to have won a major championship, Pavin simply became over-golfed, stale and tired. The answer probably lies in a combination of all these factors but correcting the problems, which are as much mental as anything else, is not easy. Hence the use of Richard Coop, a sports psychologist.

"There are still skeletons in the closet," Pavin said. "I have done things I haven't been very pleased with because my swing wasn't very good. So I have to rid myself of those, too. That's probably the hardest thing, to get rid of the bad thoughts."

It was very different earlier this decade when Pavin, who has amassed more than $8 million in prize-money, could do little wrong. He used his competitive instincts and tremendous short game to overcome shortcomings elsewhere. His swing is not the liquid gold of Fred Couples and he has never been long off the tee, but Pavin was virtually unrivalled in his ability to get up and down and hole out under pressure.

It is the streetfighter in Pavin that refuses to concede that he cannot once again scale the summit. A born-again Christian who converted from the Jewish faith on marrying his wife, Shannon, Pavin is convinced that it is a matter of when, not if. But he also knows that, where the Ryder Cup is concerned, time is running out, with Kite due to name his two wild cards on August 18.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: New York Yankees 12 Cleveland 6; Oakland 8 Seattle 5; Detroit 7 Boston 5 (12inns); Baltimore 8 Toronto 4; Milwaukee 5 Kansas City 2; Minnesota 8 Chicago White Sox 4; Anaheim 6 Texas 2. NATIONAL LEAGUE: Houston 5 Chicago Cubs 3; Los Angeles 6 Colorado 5; Montreal 5 Florida 0; St Louis 7 Cincinnati 4; Pittsburgh 4 New York Mets 3; Philadelphia 8 Atlanta 1; San Francisco 16 San Diego 2.

BOWLS

EASTBOURNE: Open Tournament: Sixth round: J Smith bt A Towner 21-15; C Murray bt A Hemmings 21-13; D Booth bt T Sutton 21-19; A Mayne bt D Woosnam 21-5; I Honnor bt M Biggleston 21-13; J Jones bt D Croft 21-9; D Dyer bt R Plant 21-15; M Jones bt D Thompson 21-11. Quarter-finals: Smith bt Murray 21-17; Booth bt Mayne 21-8; J Jones wo Honnor scr; M Jones bt Dyer 21-16

CRICKET

AON RISK TROPHY (one day): Welbeck CC: Derbyshire 187. Nottinghamshire 189-3 (G F Archer 127 not out). Nottinghamshire won by seven wickets. Chelmsford: MCC Young Cricketers 285, Essex 258. MCC won by 27 runs.

CYCLING

TOUR DE FRANCE: Eleventh stage (Andorra to Perpignan, 192km): 1, L Desbiens (Fr, Cofidis) 5hr 5min 5sec; 2, C Finco (It, MG); 3, S Outschakov (Ukr, Polti) both same time; 4, F Moncassin (Fr, Gan) at 18sec; 5, E Zabel (Ger, Telekom); 6, M Traversoni (It, Mercatone Uno); 7, F Baldato (It, MG); 8, F Andreu (US, Cofidis), 9, A Baffi (It, US Postal); 10, G Pierobon (It, Batik) 51, C Boardman (GB, GAN); 52, M Sciandri (GB, La Française des Jeux) same time same time. Leading overall positions: 1, J Ullrich (Ger, Telekom) 60hr 6min 17sec; 2, R Virenque (Fr, Festina) at 2min 38sec; 3, A Olano (Sp, Banesto) 4:46; 4, B Riis (Den, Telekom) 4:53; 5, M Pantini (It, Mercatone Uno) 5:29; 6, F Escartin (Sp, Kelme) 5:46; 7, L Dufaux (Switz, Festina) 6:02; 8, O Camenzind (Switz, Mapei) 7:00; 9, F Casagrande (It, Saeco) 7:20; 10, C Vasseur (Fr, GAN) 7:31 79, Sciandri 1hr 1min 54sec; 91, Boardman 1:10:42

FENCING

CAPE TOWN: World championships: Men: Epée: Semi-finals: E Srecki (Fr) bt R Andrzejuk (Pol) 15-5; P Kolobkov (Russ) bt R Leroux (Fr) 15-4. Final: Srecki bt Kolobkov 15-14. Women: Foil: Semi-finals: G Trillini (It) bt M Weber (Ger) 15-7; S Bau (Ger) bt D Bianchedi (It) 15-10 Final: Trillini bt Bau 15-10.

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT: Derry City 3 Celtic 2; Newcastle United 3 PSV Eindhoven 2 (both at Lansdowne Road, Dublin).

OTHER MATCHES: Ski 3 Tottenham H 2; Purfleet 0 West Ham 4; Caernarfon Town 3 Wrexham 4; Bournemouth 1 Portsmouth 0.

ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: Deportivo Español 0 Platense 0.

GLIDING

ST AUBAN, France: World championships: Final day: Open (368km poly; all 18 completed): 1, S Kawa (Pol) 124.5kph, 973pts; 2, R Schroeder (Ger) 123.8, 961; 3, D Hauss (Fr) 123.1, 950; 4, G Lherm (Fr) 122.8, 944; 11, P Jones (GB) 113, 791; 16, R May (GB) 108, 950. Overall positions: 1, Lherm 7,533; 2, Hauss 7,528; 3, Schroeder 7,518; 13, Jones 6,037; 18, May 5,287. 15m (342km poly: 31 completions of 33): 1, M Grund (Ger) 114.9, 990; 2, J Wills (GB) 114.8, 986; 3, T Gostner (It) 113.9, 974. 18, S Jones (GB) 102 7, 974; 29, A Kay (GB) 94.4, 658. Overall positions: 1, W Meuser (Ger) 7,800; 2, Grund 7,674; 3, G Galetto (It) 7,640; 5, Wills 7,253; 11, Kay 6,896; 12, Jones 6,848. Standard (318km poly: 35 completions of 38): 1, A Davis (GB) 125.3, 818; 2, P Hartmann (Austria) 123.2, 792; 3, B Taylor (Aus) 122.6, 784; 10, B Spreckley (GB) 120, 758; 30, M Wells (GB) 108.9, 6267. Overall positions: 1, J-M Caillard (Fr) 7,370; 2, J-D Barrois (Fr) 7,136; 3, J-C Lopitaux (Fr) 7,056; 6, Davis 6,920; 12, Wells 6,252; 24, Spreckley 5,594.

GOLF

HAWKSTONE PARK, Shropshire: Lawrence Levy British blind masters tournament: Leading second-round scores: 139: D Morris 63, 76. 151: M Gardener 72, 79. 162: B Ritchie 73, 79; S Traquair 77, 75. 154: A Stewart 80, 74.

HANG-GLIDING

LARAGNE, France: McCarthy British Championships: First day: 1, G Rigg 4,108pts; 2, D Arlewright 3,952; 3, A Barnes 3,823; 4, C Ashman 3,441; 5, S Cook 3,279

HOCKEY

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: England Under-21 4 Combined Services 2 (at Milton Keynes).

RIFLE SHOOTING

BISLEY: NRA Imperial Meeting: Match rifle (Hopton Cup): 1, S Collings (Windsor RC) 959.105; 2, W Meldrum (NRC Scotland) 955.109; 3, J Carmichae 952.94. Brian Green Trophy (Tyro): R Lygoe (928.74. Albert Cup (1,000 1,100 and 1,200 yds): 1, A Henderson (N London) 213.20; 2, W Hanna (ATRC) 297.20; 3, T Smith Cambridge U) 207 18. 1,200 yds agg: 1, Rosling 241.18; 2, Cargill-Thompson 238.14; 3, K Ramsey (CURA) 238.14. Victoria Aggregate: 1, Meldrum 394.44, 2, Henderson 392.44; 3, Cargill-Thompson. F W Jones Cup (M R Teams): 1, NRC Scotland 850.66; 2, Scotland B 840.80; 3, Etonian Shooting Club 832.74. Five Nations Trophy: 1, Scotland 559.50; 2, England 542.40; 3, Wales 517.30; 4, Normandy 488.23 1,100 yds aggregate: 1, Powell 407 40. 2, Pugsley 405.43; 3, A Hissey (English VIII) 405 40 Army Rifle Association Bisley Cup (Present and Retired): 1, J Lewis 149.20/25.4; 2, A Clarke 149.20/25 4, 3, Sgt D Copley (Royal Signals) 148 17 Target rifle team match: 11 Signal Regt 2.423 Queen's Regiment Cup (sniper rifle teams): 1, 3 RSME Regt 424 38

RUGBY UNION

Tour match

Ontario	10	Wales XV	54

Ontario: Try: Pagano. Con: Pattigrew Pen: Pettigrew Wales XV: Tries: Appleyard, Booobyer, G Wyatt 3, James 2, Jarvis 2 Cons: Jarvis 3 Pen: Jarvis

(at Hamilton)

SWIMMING

BALA LAKE CHAMPIONSHIP (6 miles): Men: 1, D Quarterman (City of Salford) 2hr 31min 29sec; 2, S Baxter (Scarborough) 2:53.23, 3, D Parry (City of Liverpool) 3:03:58 Breaststroke: N Thomson (City of Liverpool) 4 16 53 Women: M Yates (Warrington Dolphins) 3 06 47. Breaststroke: K Barton (Howbridge Marlins) 3:48 40

SPEEDWAY

SPEEDWAY STAR CUP: Semi-final, second-leg: Bradford 56 Eastbourne 34 Eastbourne win on aggregate 92-68

PREMIER LEAGUE: Hull 50 Long Eaton 40.

TENNIS

STUTTGART: Men's tournament: Second round: S Bruguera (Sp) bt F Dewulf (Bel) 7-6, 3-6, 6-1; F Mantilla (Sp) bt F Meligeni (Br) 6-4, 6-4. M Larsson (Swe) bt G Rusedski (GB) 7-6, 6-7, 6-4; A Portas (Sp) bt T Muster (Austria) 6-4, 7-5; F Clavet (Sp) bt M Rosset (Switz) 7-5 6-1; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt F Santoro (Fr) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; A Costa (Sp) bt S Dosedel (Cz) 6-3, 7-5; B Becker (Ger) bt K Alami (Mor) 7-6, 7-6; K Kucera (Slovenia) bt A Medvedev (Ukr) 6-2, 6-4, A Berasategui (Sp) bt F Vicente (Sp) 6-4, 6-2; H Gumy (Arg) bt B Ulihrach (Cz) 7-5, 6-2

WASHINGTON: Men's tournament: First round: M Merklein (US) bt J Salzenstein (US) 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, M Tebbutt (Aus) bt N Pereira (Ven) 6-2, 6-4. B Steven (NZ) bt L Jensen (US) 7-6, 6-3. B Ellwood (Aus) bt M Knowles (Bah) 5-4 ret. Second round: M Chang (US) bt L Herrera (Mex) 6-3, 6-7, 7-6. P Korda (Cz) bt D Nainkin (SA) 6-4, 6-2; J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt A Cherkasov (Russ) 6-2, 6-3; L Smith (US) bt L Roux (Fr) 6-3, 6-3; S Draper (Aus) bt G Solves (Fr) 7-5, 6-1, M Joyce (US) bt N Godwin (SA) 7-6, 7-6

PALERMO: Women's tournament: First round: B Schett (Austria) bt S Maior (Ger) 6-1, 1-0 rtd. P Begerow (Ger) bt L Girardi-Rubi (Fr) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2. S De Ville (Bel) bt L Dell'Angelo (It) 6-2, 7-6

PRAGUE: Women's tournament: First round: B Schult-McCarthy (Holl) bt R Zrubakova (Slovakia) 6-2, 6-1; R Dragomir (Rom) bt M Grzybowska (Pol) 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, K Habsudova (Slovakia) bt G Leon-Garcia (Sp) 6-4, 6-3, W Probst (Ger) bt P Schnyder (Switz) 3-6, 7-6, 6-4; D Chladkova (Cz) bt M Nekvapilova (Cz) 6-7, 6-0, 6-1, M Maruska (Austria) bt K Studenikova (Slovakia) 6-0, 6-2; N Louarsabishvili (Belarus) bt S Kleinova (Cz) 3-6, 6-2, 6-2; A Dechaume-Balleret (Fr) bt E Martincova (Cz) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4; R Bobkova (Cz Rep) bt E Melicharova (Slovakia) 6-3, 6-4, L Richterova (Cz) bt R Pelikanova (Cz) 6-3, 6-1; J Kruger (SA) bt O Barabanschikova (Bela) 6-3, 6-2; V Martinek (Ger) bt P Langrova (Cz) 6-4, 6-3; C Cristea (Rom) bt A Gersi (Cz) 6-2 0-1 ret.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Tetley's Challenge Series
11.0, second day of three
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Australians

Tour match
11.0, second day of three
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Pakistan A

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, second day of four, 104 overs minimum
CHELTENHAM: Gloucestershire v Derbyshire
CANTERBURY: Kent v Leicestershire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Sussex
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Essex
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Warwickshire
GUILDFORD: Surrey v Hampshire
SCARBOROUGH: Yorkshire v Durham

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH (one day): Lord's: NCA Young Cricketers v Combined Services.

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Second day of three: South Shields: Durham v Leicestershire. Chelmsford: Essex v Lancashire. Southampton: Hampshire v Yorkshire. Southgate CC: Middlesex v Gloucestershire. Wellingborough: Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire. Hove: Sussex v Glamorgan. Halesowen: Worcestershire v Derbyshire. Third day of four: Taunton: Somerset v Warwickshire. The Oval: Surrey v Kent.

FOOTBALL

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Macclesfield v Dundee (7.30), Scarborough v Oldham (7.0).

OTHER SPORT

HOCKEY: Representative match: England Under-21 v Centenary Club XI (at National Stadium, Milton Keynes, 4.30).

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CRICKET

Smith gives selectors six reasons to rethink

By Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

CHELTENHAM (first day of four; Derbyshire won toss): Gloucestershire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 186 runs ahead of Derbyshire

DAVID LLOYD, the England coach, came to the opening of the Cheltenham festival yesterday, hoping to see Mike Smith bowl himself back into contention for the Headingley Test. By lunchtime, the job was done.

Smith dismissed Derbyshire inside two hours, swinging the ball late and venomously. His six for 47 made him the first bowler this season to pass 50 wickets and, with Dean Headley once more missing a championship match with a niggling injury, Smith will today be brought into the England party.

The addition ought to be unnecessary, for the one thing that made no sense in an otherwise astutely swift reselection after Old Trafford, was the eviction of Smith. Leeds, where the ball invariably swings, is undoubtedly his ground, as he emphasised with ten wickets in Gloucestershire's championship win there last month.

The quality of his bowling and his angle as a left-armer are complemented by the value of his footmarks to the off spin of Robert Croft. Lloyd, who required no personal persuasion of all this, watched with satisfaction as Smith demolished Derbyshire, then spoke by telephone to the chairman of selectors, David Graveney, who is holidaying in Spain.

Headley's incapacity makes it easy for the selectors to re-recruit Smith but, in another sense, is alarming. He took eight wickets on his debut and was much the most impressive England bowler, but his fitness is unreliable.

This was, in all ways, a marvellous day for Gloucestershire. The special sense of anticipation that Cheltenham brings was expressed in a decent crowd and the usual semi-circle of well-filled marquees. It was also expressed on the field, by players who genuinely believe they can sustain a challenge for the title.

The euphoria induced by Smith was briefly subdued when Devon Malcolm, charging in from the college green, took their first three wickets in four overs, but thereafter the day belonged to Shaun Young. The Tasmanian left-hander made his maiden first-class hundred for the county, striking the ball with punitive force and establishing a potentially decisive lead.

The command of Young, who shared century stands with Tim Hancock and Mark Alleyne, put the earlier events sharply into context. Although ten batsmen were out before lunch, and an eleventh, Vandrau, retired requiring stitches in his jaw, this is an admirable pitch, even of bounce and allowing negligible lateral movement.

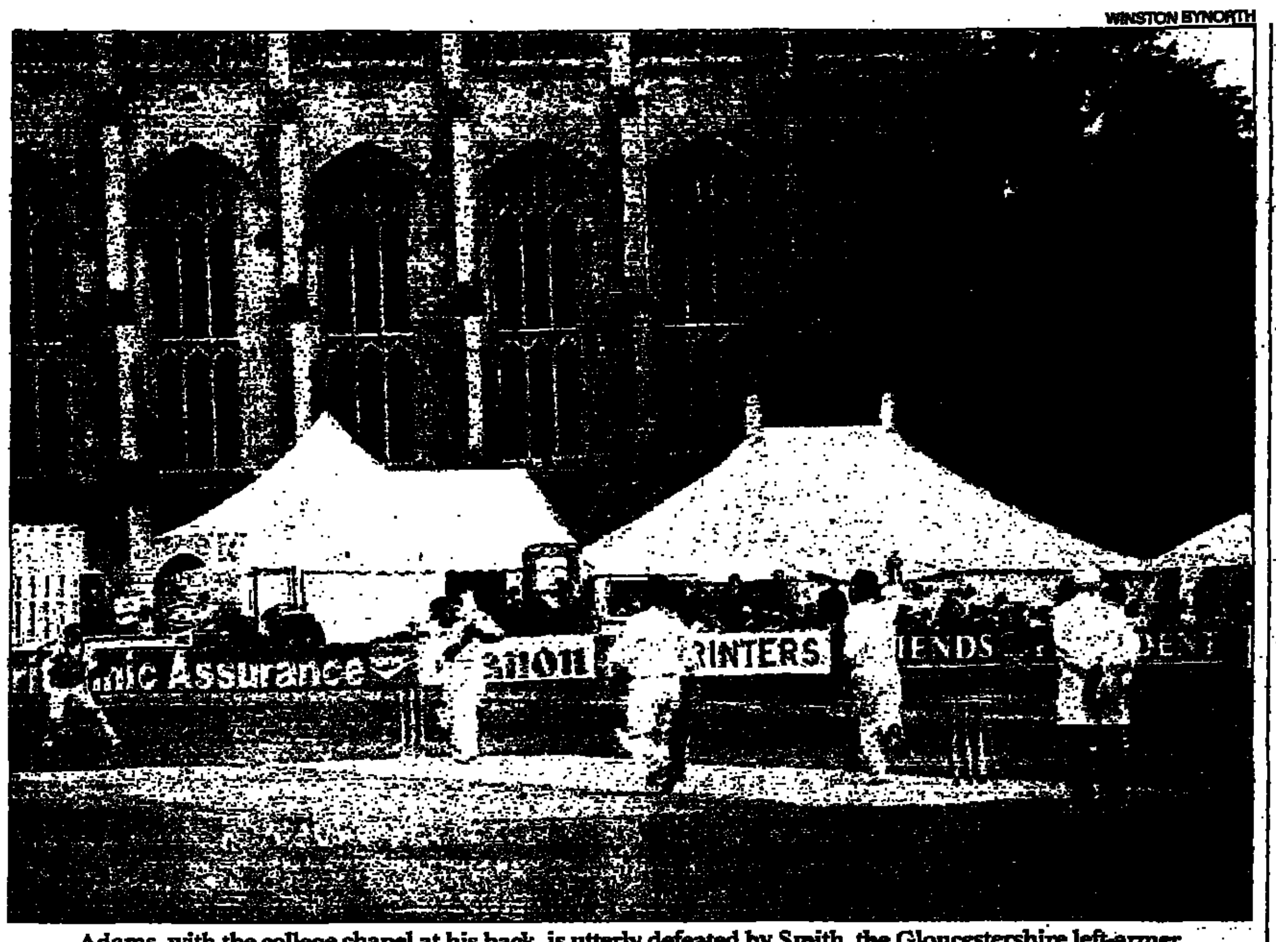
It was just as good in the corresponding festival fixture last year, which Gloucestershire bewilderingly lost inside two days. If there is to be a two-day finish this time, they will be on the right end of it, deepening the gloom that is settling over Derbyshire.

Already bottom of the table, they also remain in the grip of a conflict between players and committee, the central feature of which is a heavy fine, levied on Kim Barnett and now subject to appeal. A committee meeting on Tuesday apparently agreed to seek a compromise, but little short of a complete climbdown will satisfy Barnett. His value as a player remains high, as he emphasised yesterday. While the rest submitted feebly on a heavy, overcast morning, Barnett's technique saw him through until, with only Malcolm for company, he was last out for 58.

Twice, Smith was on a hat-trick and if Lynch had clung on to a sharp slip chance from Barnett, the ball after Clarke's departure to a misguided hook, it would have been thrice. In his second over, Smith removed Rollins, leg-before to a yorker, and bowled Adams through an airy drive that the batsman glumly estimated he had missed by a foot. Later, DeFreitas and Harris also went to consecutive balls.

Gloucestershire's start was no better, a reminder of the batting shortcomings that inhibit them, but Derbyshire's bowling wilted in the afternoon sun. Dropping short to Young is a crime, one which the seamers repeated with severe consequences. By evening, Derbyshire looked fatalistic as Young accelerated past 150, with 106 of the runs having come from boundaries.

WINSTON BYNORTH



Adams, with the college chapel at his back, is utterly defeated by Smith, the Gloucestershire left-armer

Roberts anchors Northamptonshire

By Barney Spender

NORTHAMPTON (first day of four; Northamptonshire won toss): Northamptonshire have scored 354 for nine wickets against Essex

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, despite their lowly position in the Britannic Assurance county championship, have a knack of producing promising youngsters. Yesterday it was the turn of David Roberts, 20, who compiled a fine maiden hundred in only his fifth championship match.

His innings of 117 was all the better for the fact that his colleagues eschewed the chance of cashing in on a friendly pitch and some surprisingly wayward bowling, and so missed out on the chance of posting a truly imposing total.

They were even in danger of failing to reach 300 when Paul Grayson, bowling his left-arm spin, picked up four for one in 34 deliveries, but some robust defiance from the last pair of Ripley and Boswell not only took them past that mark but beyond 350 as well, to ensure maximum batting points.

Of the top eight, only Bailey was unable to make it into the twenties but none apart from Roberts went on beyond 36. The most eccentric performance came from Loye who, moving down the order to No 4, scythed his way to 32 off 41 balls, as if it were a one-day game.

Roberts watched with a detached air of bemusement, showing a phlegmatic temperament when he spent just under an hour stuck on 26. Instead of getting ruffled, he quietly got himself going again and flexed his muscles when the opportunity arose, a fierce pulled six off Cowan momentarily upstaging Loye.

After reaching his 50 shortly after lunch, he demonstrated a fine array of strokes, including one delicate late cut off Such. His century arrived just before tea, from 224 balls.

Reprieved Crawley makes Sussex pay

By Richard Hobson

OLD TRAFFORD (first day of four; Sussex won toss): Lancashire have scored 380 for five wickets against Sussex

ALTHOUGH three days remain, it is hardly rash to venture that the defining moment of this game came in its first session when John Crawley, without a run to his name, attempted to drive Mark Robinson and turned to see Keith Greenfield, in the slips, spill a waist-high chance.

Almost four hours later, when conditions had eased considerably, Crawley was celebrating his second hundred of the season, succumbing soon afterwards for 112, an innings which included 15 fours. He put on 243 in 58 overs for the third wicket with Neil Fairbrother.

Given that Sussex have totalled 331 in aggregate in their past four championship innings, a third successive victory beckons strongly for Lancashire, who recovered well from an uneasy start on a re-laid pitch that gave early assistance to the bowlers.

Robinson produced a delivery that pitched middle-and-leg before uprooting Gallian's off stump and Atherton fell leg-before when Kirtley nipped one back.

After cautious beginnings, Crawley and Fairbrother ran their singles intelligently and became more ambitious in dealing with loose deliveries that came with growing frequency. Fairbrother punished anything short in compiling 132 in 255 minutes with 14 fours.

Sussex, who entered the contest with more bowling points than any other county, decided to play without a regular spinner for the first time this season, a mistake which forced Moores to turn to Greenfield and Rao, the most occasional of twirlers, as his sixth and seventh bowlers.

Unhappy captains are not game for a laugh

By Pat Gibson

SCARBOROUGH (first day of four; Durham won toss): Yorkshire, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 15 runs behind Durham

THERE was no confusing Michael Roseberry and David Boon, Durham captains past and present, with tonight's star turns at the theatre down by the harbour. They are called The Chuckle Brothers.

Roseberry was a picture of misery on a day which began with him being forced to retire hurt after being struck on the helmet by a short ball from White and ended with him facing a charge of showing dissent when the umpire, George Sharp, gave him out caught behind as soon as he returned.

Boon was not chuckling either. He had chosen to bat first on a sporting pitch which was green in the middle and bare at the ends, and seen his gamble backfire as Durham were bowled out for 152 and Yorkshire cruised to 137 for two.

They used to call the Scarborough Festival "first-class cricket on holiday", but it is anything but that in the championship matches these days. It was sheer hard graft for Durham and only Lewis, the former Essex opener, seemed up to it.

He battled through 45 overs for 50 before Hartley had him caught at slip, but the rest were no match for the Yorkshire attack. There were four wickets for Gough and three for Hartley, while Silverwood ended the biggest stand — 30 — with a direct hit to run out Betts.

Byas and McGrath quickly put the Durham total in perspective with a second-wicket stand of 88. Byas had 11 fours in his 48 and McGrath completed his first championship half-century of the season before the close.

Hat-trick by Franks brings renewed promise

By Michael Henderson

TRENT BRIDGE (first day of four; Nottinghamshire won toss): Warwickshire have scored 328 for nine wickets against Nottinghamshire

PAUL FRANKS, 18, an all-rounder who has captained England at under-15 and 17 levels, yesterday became the youngest Nottinghamshire player to perform the hat-trick. In the first over after tea, as Warwickshire were sailing along at 225 for three, he had Penney caught behind and then hit the stumps of Brown and Welch.

The last Nottinghamshire player to do the hat-trick was Richard Hadlee, at Canterbury in 1987. That was the year that they won the championship and, on a rain-affected weekend, added the NatWest Trophy for good measure. Then Hadlee retired from county cricket, together with Clive Rice, and the club has struggled to redefine itself.

Off the field there has been a lack of direction, and on it there has been a lack of drive. Whether a younger generation is actually knocking at the door is open to question, but at least there are now some flickers of promise.

Franks, a right-arm seamer who aspires to bowl fast, goes off next month to play for the England Under-19 side against Zimbabwe. He can also hold a bat and, in diving to catch Ostler low at square leg, he showed his fielding is not bad either.

Ostler made 65, five fewer than Hemp, whose cover driving provided the main pleasure. The pitch looked green, and there was some movement through the air, but Hemp and Wagh, one steadily and the other grimly, batted through the morning session after the loss of Moles.

Wagh took 25 overs to reach double figures and departed to one of his few attacking strokes. Hemp played more freely and had just driven Tolley resoundingly for four when he was brilliantly held at second slip by Archer. Giles contributed 42 good runs.

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings

*A J Moles lbw b Oram	28
M A Wagh c Archer b Franks	25
D L Hemp c Archer b Tolley	70
D P Ostler c Franks b Tolley	65
T L Penney c Noon b Franks	25
D R Brown b Franks	0
G Welch b Franks	0
A F Giles c Tolley b Oram	42
†T Frost c Dowman b Tolley	8
A A Donald not out	15
M A V Bell not out	21
Extras (b 7, lb 10, w 14, nb 8)	39
Total (9 wkts, 104 overs)	328

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-98, 3-160, 4-225, 5-225, 6-225, 7-265, 8-275, 9-293.

BOWLING: Franks 22-5-81-4; Oram 25-4-81-2; Tolley 29-9-79-3; Astle 18-4-47-0; Dowman 5-1-12-0; Afzaal 5-3-11-0.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: P R Pollard, R T Robinson, *P Johnson, N J Astle, G F Archer, U Afzaal, M P Dowman, C M Tolley, P J Franks, †W M Noon, A R Oram.

Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 4 Warwickshire 3.

Umpires: V A Holder and B Leadbeater.

Ambitious Surrey quick to make the running

By Simon Wilde

GUILDFORD (first day of four; Surrey won toss): Surrey have scored 457 for nine wickets against Hampshire

SURREY have resolved to turn over a new leaf after their champagne victory in the Benson and Hedges Cup and their first task is to breathe life into their ailing championship season. They have set themselves the task of winning their next three matches and began their mission with a vengeance yesterday.

Nobody encapsulated this mood better than Adam Hollioake, the captain. First he dismissed his agent, Gareth James, whose influence on the team has been welcomed by few, and then went out and thumped Hampshire's labouring attack to all parts for a 34-ball half-century.

It took a smart leg-side stumping by Aymes to stem the flow, but by then Hollioake had reached his highest championship score of the season, 75 from 69 balls with 13 fours and a six, 26 coming in two withering overs against Bovill. Hollioake was not alone. Butcher — dropped on 11 — Thorpe and Lewis also recorded season-best championship scores while Stewart made 98.

As these statistics suggest, a shortage of runs has been at the heart of Surrey's failings this season, so to total more than 450 in a day must have been a heartening collective exercise, even if the friendly conditions at Woodbridge Road should equally inflate Hampshire's output.

If Hollioake's innings was the most explosive of the day, Thorpe's was the most finely crafted and Stewart's the most extravagant. Butcher and Stewart put on 174 for the second wicket, Thorpe and Hollioake 124 for the fifth.

For the marqueed crowd, the day could not have been better, save for a contribution from Ben Hollioake, who carelessly pulled his fifth ball into the hands of mid-wicket. Hampshire stuck to their task well and are not out of the contest yet.

SURREY: First Innings

J D Ratcliffe c Keech b Milburn	1
M A Butcher c Keech b Stephenson	69
†A J Stewart c Aymes b Milburn	98
G P Thorpe c Aymes b Bovill	84
A D Brown c Renshaw b Stephenson	7
*A J Hollioake st Aymes b Keech	75
B C Hollioake c James b Milburn	0
C C Lewis not out	66
M P Bicknell b Stephenson	0
I D K Salisbury c Hayden b Bovill	11
A J Tudor not out	27
Extras (b 3, lb 10, w 2, nb 4)	19
Total (9 wkts, 104 overs)	457

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-177, 3-183, 4-203, 5-327, 6-328, 7-367, 8-368, 9-415.

BOWLING: Bovill 21-3-112-2; Milburn 23-1-81-3; Renshaw 15-3-85-0; Udal 13-1-43-0; Stephenson 28-1-115-3; Keech 4-0-12-1.

HAMPSHIRE: M L Hayden, J S Laney, K D James, R A Smith, M Keech, *J P Stephenson, †A N Aymes, S D Udal, J N B Bovill, S J Renshaw, S M Milburn.

Bonus points: Surrey 4 Hampshire 4.

Umpires: J W Holder and M J Kitchen.

READER OFFER THE TIMES

Exclusive private view at the Tate Gallery

Readers of *The Times* are invited to an exclusive party, on Tuesday, July 22, to celebrate the Tate Gallery's 100th birthday.

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Among these originals you will see the beautiful oil painting *The Lady of Shalott* (above) by artist John William Waterhouse.

The current major exhibition at the Tate focuses on the work of the leading American painter Ellsworth Kelly. This is the first retrospective of this important artist's work in Britain. It includes more than 50 works from 1949 to the present day. Kelly's paintings are based on careful observations of the real world, transformed into abstract works of the greatest possible purity of colour, line and form.

To book, call First Call on 0171-420 0000. Tickets, which cost £16.75 per person, include canapés and two glasses of wine.

CHANGING TIMES

Tetley's Challenge Series

Glamorgan v Australians

CARDIFF (first day of three; Glamorgan won toss): Glamorgan, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 339 runs behind the Australians

AUSTRALIANS: First Innings

*M A Taylor c Morris b Cosker	71
M T G Elliott c Maynard b Butcher	26
G S Blewett b Butcher	54
R T Ponting not out	126
M J Slater c Metson b Cosker	26
J L Langer not out	50
Extras (b 4, lb 8, w 2, nb 2)	16
Total (4 wkts dec)	369

M G Bevan, †D S Berry, B P Julian, P R Reiffel and M S Kasprowicz did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-72, 2-132, 3-197, 4-246.

BOWLING: Thomas 16-1-73-0; Parkin 19-4-79-0; Dale 13-2-49-0; Butcher 13-1-52-2; Cosker 24-5-95-2; Maynard 3-0-10-0.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James not out	16
H Morris not out	5
Extras (lb 3, w 2, nb 4)	9
Total (no wkt)	30

A Dale, *M P Maynard, P A Cottey, M J Powell, G P Butcher, †C P Metson, S D Thomas, D A Cosker and O T Parkin to bat.

BOWLING: Reiffel 4-0-16-0; Kasprowicz 4-2-11-0.

Umpires: J C Balderstone and T E Jesty.

Tour match

Worcestershire v Pakistan A

WORCESTER (first day of three; Pakistan A won toss): Pakistan A, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 99 runs behind Worcestershire

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

V S Solanki c Javed b Abdul	6
W P C Weston c Javed b Ali Husain	8
*G A Hick c Shoaib b Ali Husain	55
K R Spiring lbw b Abdul	35
G R Haynes c and b Ali Husain	65
D A Leatherdale lbw b Azhar	6
†I Dawood lbw b Azhar	0
M Rawnsley b Azhar	16
A Sheriyar st Javed b Ali Husain	21
P A Thomas not out	16
M M Mirza c Azhar b Ali Husain	6
Extras (b 5, lb 7, w 1, nb 18)	31
Total	265

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-54, 3-95, 4-141, 5-178, 6-176, 7-206, 8-242, 9-247.

BOWLING: Shoaib Akhtar 10-0-57-0; Abdul Razzak 10-1-33-2; Azhar Mahmood 25-8-89-3; Ali Husain Rizvi 18-1-68-5; Mujahid Jamshed 2-0-6-0.

PAKISTAN A: First Innings

Ali Naqvi lbw b Sheriyar	36
Salim Elahi not out	78
Mujahid Jamshed lbw b Sheriyar	4
Fana Qayyum lbw b Mirza	12
Farhan Adil not out	32
Extras (lb 3, w 1)	4
Total (3 wkts)	166

*Mohammad Wasim, Azhar Mahmood, †Javed Qadir, Abdul Razzak, Ali Husain Rizvi and Shoaib Akhtar to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-66, 3-93.

BOWLING: Sheriyar 7-0-33-2; Thomas 7-1-34-0; Mirza 9-1-48-1; Leatherdale 5-1-16-0; Rawnsley 6-3-14-0; Solanki 4-2-16-0.

Umpires: J D Bond and N A Mallender.

Britannic Assurance county championship

Gloucestershire v Derbyshire

CHELTENHAM (first day of four; Derbyshire won toss): Gloucestershire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 188 runs ahead of Derbyshire

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

A S Rollins lbw b Smith	6
M R May c Russell b Smith	5
C J Adams b Smith	0
K J Barnett c Russell b Lewis	58
M J Vandrau retired hurt	1
V P Clarke c Young b Smith	9
†K M Krikken c Ball b Young	0
*P A J DeFreitas c Russell b Smith	9
A J Harris b Smith	0
K J Dean c Wright b Lewis	16
D E Malcolm not out	1
Extras (lb 7, w 2, nb 6)	15
Total (28 overs)	120

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-10, 3-21, 4-41, 5-45, 6-74, 7-74, 8-119, 9-120.

BOWLING: Smith 12-1-47-6; Lewis 7-0-36-2; Young 7-1-19-1; Alleyne 2-0-11-0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

A J Wright c Adams b Malcolm	2
N J Trainor c Krikken b Malcolm	0
T H C Hancock c Rollins b DeFreitas	54
M A Lynch c Dean b Malcolm	8
S Young not out	156
*M W Alleyne not out	63
Extras (b 1, lb 6, nb 16)	23
Total (4 wkts, 74 overs)	308

†R C Russell, R I Dawson, M C J Ball, A M Smith and J Lewis to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-2, 3-16, 4-155.

BOWLING: Malcolm 18-0-89-3; Dean 14-1-53-0; DeFreitas 18-5-51-1; Harris 13-2-79-0; Vandrau 7-1-17-0; Clarke 4-0-30-0.

Bonus points: Gloucestershire 7 Derbyshire 1.

Umpires: D R Shepherd and J F Steele.

Kent v Leicestershire

CANTERBURY (first day of four; Kent won toss): Kent have scored 356 for seven wickets against Leicestershire

KENT: First Innings

D P Fulton lbw b Mullally	26
E T Smith c Nixon b Ormond	31
T R Ward c and b Pierson	51
A P Wells c Nixon b Ormond	5
N J Llong lbw b Ormond	0
M A Ealham not out	96
M V Fleming c Nixon b Pierson	16
P A Strang b Millns	82
*†S A Marsh not out	16
Extras (b 7, lb 10, w 8, nb 8)	33
Total (7 wkts, 109 overs)	356

M J McCague and J B D Thompson to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-63, 2-71, 3-108, 4-108, 5-126, 6-162, 7-307.

BOWLING: Millns 20-4-69-1; Mullally 20-3-79-1; Ormond 19-3-71-3; Pierson 32-11-79-2; Johnson 15-6-27-0; Wells 3-0-14-0.

LEICESTERSHIRE: V J Wells, D L Maddy, I J Sutcliffe, *J J Whitaker, N C Johnson, B F Smith, †P A Nixon, A R K Pierson, D J Millns, A D Mullally, J Ormond.

Bonus points: Kent 4 Leicestershire 3.

Umpires: K E Palmer and B J Meyer.

LORD'S: National Association of Young Cricketers 215-8 dec (C Hodgson 74); MCC Schools 156-8 (N R Boulton 72). Match drawn.

Lancashire v Sussex

OLD TRAFFORD (first day of four; Sussex won toss): Lancashire have scored 380 for five wickets against Sussex

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

M A Atherton lbw b Kirtley	33
J E R Gallian b Robinson	25
J P Crawley c Moores b Robinson	112
N H Fairbrother c Greenfield b Kirtley	132
G D Lloyd c Athey b Robinson	3
*M Watkinson not out	25
I D Austin not out	12
Extras (lb 8, nb 30)	38
Total (5 wkts, 101 overs)	380

†W K Hegg, G Yates, P J Martin and D J Shadford to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57, 2-67, 3-310, 4-334, 5-338.

BOWLING: Drakes 20-3-71-0; Jarvis 18-1-59-0; Robinson 23-4-95-3; Kirtley 21-4-88-2; Newell 8-1-25-0; Greenfield 4-1-18-0; Rao 7-1-18-0.

SUSSEX: R K Rao, N J Lenham, N R Taylor, C W J Athey, K Greenfield, K Newell, *†P Moores, V C Drakes, P W Jarvis, M A Robinson, R J Kirtley.

Bonus points: Lancashire 4 Sussex 2.

Umpires: D J Constant and R Julian.

Northamptonshire v Essex

NORTHAMPTON (first day of four; Northamptonshire won toss): Northamptonshire have scored 354 for nine wickets against Essex

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

R J Warren c Rollins b D R Law	25
D J Roberts b Grayson	117
*R J Bailey c Rollins b D R Law	0
M B Loye c Williams b Cowan	32
K M Curran b Cowan	36
D J G Sales lbw b Such	31
J N Snape c D R Law b Grayson	23
†D Ripley not out	33
J P Taylor b Grayson	1
Mohammad Akram lbw b Grayson	7
S A J Boswell not out	27
Extras (b 1, lb 6, nb 15)	22
Total (9 wkts, 108 overs)	354

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-85, 3-100, 4-155, 5-224, 6-281, 7-282, 8-284, 9-294.

BOWLING: Cowan 21-4-96-2; Williams 16-3-50-0; D R Law 23-5-70-2; Irani 16-4-37-0; Such 13-3-41-1; Grayson 19-6-53-4.

ESSEX: G A Gooch, *P J Prichard, S G Law, N Hussain, R C Irani, A P Grayson, D R Law, †R J Rollins, A P Cowan, N F Williams, P M Such.

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 4 Essex 4.

Umpires: J H Hampshire and P Willey.

Yorkshire v Durham

SCARBOROUGH (first day of four; Durham won toss): Yorkshire, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 15 runs behind Durham

DURHAM: First Innings

J J B Lewis c White b Hartley	50
M A Roseberry c Blakey b Hartley	5
J E Morris b White	12
N J Speak lbw b Gough	11
*D C Boon lbw b Gough	5
†M P Speight c Blakey b Silverwood	8
M J Foster c White b Hartley	8
M M Betts run out	23
J Boiling not out	11
S J E Brown c White b Gough	0
A Walker b Gough	0
Extras (b 8, lb 1, w 2, nb 10)	21
Total (64.5 overs)	152

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-75, 3-83, 4-102, 5-108, 6-122, 7-122, 8-152, 9-152.

BOWLING: Gough 18.5-7-37-4; Silverwood 17-7-32-1; White 12-2-42-1; Hartley 14-4-29-3; Stemp 3-1-3-0.

YORKSHIRE: First Innings

M D Moxon c Speight b Betts	3
A McGrath not out	57
*D Byas b Walker	48
D S Lehmann not out	27
Extras (lb 2)	2
Total (2 wkts, 37 overs)	137

C White, B Parker, †R J Blakey, D Gough, P J Hartley, C E W Silverwood and R D Stemp to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-97.

BOWLING: Brown 8-1-31-0; Betts 6-1-24-1; Walker 7-1-38-1; Foster 11-2-29-0; Boiling 5-2-13-0.

Bonus points: Yorkshire 4 Durham 0.

Umpires: J H Harris and G Sharp.

Asia Cup

Bangladesh v Pakistan

COLOMBO (Pakistan won toss): Pakistan beat Bangladesh by 109 runs

PAKISTAN

Saeed Anwar c Habibul b Enamul	90
Aamir Sohail c Khalid b Hasibul	0
*Ramiz Raja c and b Minhajul	52
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Habibul b Sheikh	77
Salim Malik c Aminul b Saiful	62
†Moin Khan not out	21
Shahid Afridi not out	4
Extras (b 1, lb 2, w 9, nb 1)	13
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs)	319

Saqlain Mushtaq, Aqib Javed, Arshad Khan and Kabir Khan did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-138, 3-166, 4-275, 5-315.

BOWLING: Hasibul Hussain 4-0-47-1; Saiful Islam 7-0-45-0; Athar Ali Khan 5-0-27-0; Sheikh Salahuddin 10-0-50-1; Aminul Islam 8-0-49-0; Minhajul Abedin 10-0-51-1; Enamul Haque 6-0-47-1.

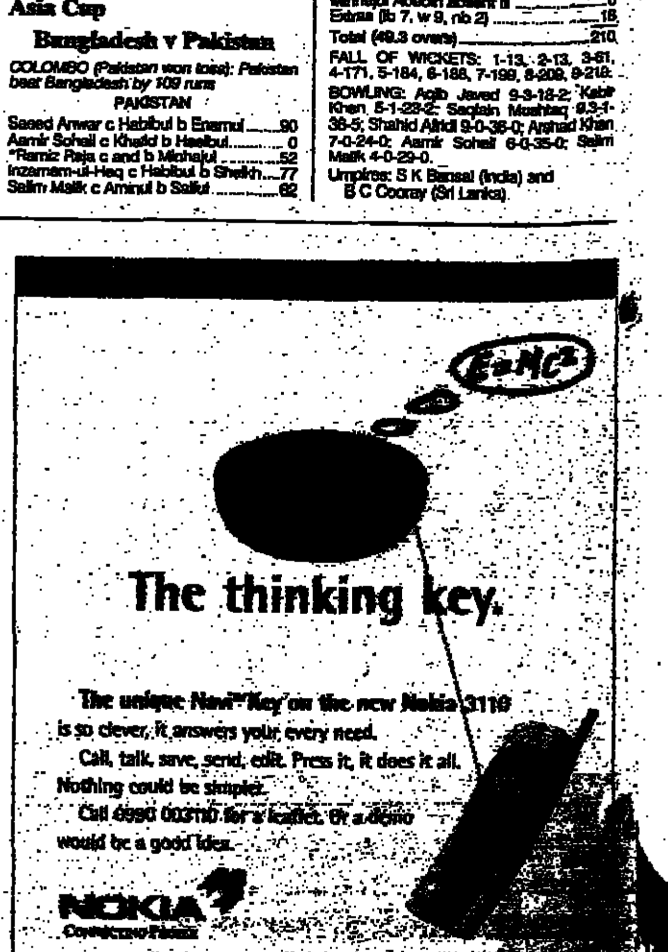
BANGLADESH

Athar Ali Khan st Moin b Saqlain	82
Naimur Rahman lbw b Kabir	8
Habibul Bashar lbw b Kabir	0
Aminul Islam c Kabir b Saqlain	14
*Akram Khan c Ramiz b Saqlain	59
Enamul Haque c Aamir b Aqib	8
†Khalid Masud c Moin b Saqlain	4
Hasibul Hussain b Aqib	16
Saiful Islam c Moin b Saqlain	7
Sheikh Salahuddin not out	0
Minhajul Abedin absent ill	0
Extras (lb 7, w 9, nb 2)	18
Total (49.3 overs)	210

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-13, 3-61, 4-171, 5-184, 6-188, 7-199, 8-209, 9-210.

BOWLING: Aqib Javed 9.3-1-18-2; Kabir Khan 5-1-28-2; Saqlain Mushtaq 9.3-1-38-5; Shahid Afridi 9-0-36-0; Arshad Khan 7-0-24-0; Aamir Sohail 6-0-35-0; Salim Malik 4-0-29-0.

Umpires: S K Bansal (India) and B C Cooray (Sri Lanka).



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Ealham directs familiar rescue

By Jack Bailey

CANTERBURY (first day of four; Kent won toss): Kent have scored 356 for seven wickets against Leicestershire

THE gremlins that influenced the tide of events for Kent in the Benson and Hedges Cup final were still lurking in large numbers yesterday morning. Kent took first innings in the knowledge that their estimable secretary, Stewart Anderson, had that morning broken his leg on the tennis court. The air of doom and gloom persisted as Kent made their way, hesitantly, to 126 for five.

Trevor Ward had bucked the trend with a cultured half-century, but it was not until Paul Strang joined Mark Ealham, at the fall of the sixth wicket for 162, that Kent's equilibrium was restored. These two added 145 runs during an entertaining 38 overs. Ealham's five-hour innings has taken him to within four runs of his century. Tenacity and sensible aggression were applied by these two as they staged the sort of rescue act that all too often has been a necessary feature of Kent's season.

A measure of the unreliability in championship games of Kent's batting in the upper order lies with the fact that, of their three centuries, all have come from below stairs. Ealham already has one, Steve Marsh and Ben Phillips the others. So, in a sense, the Kent faithful have become inured to disaster followed by deeds of derring-do; but it is not good for the blood pressure.

There were early signs that a more orthodox course of events might be followed yesterday. When they had reached 55 without loss, Ed Smith, in his first championship game of the season, and David Fulton had equalled Kent's best championship opening partnership this season. However, when they had reached 63, normal service was restored.

It was James Ormond, Leicestershire's up-and-coming quick bowler, who made the breach, brushing Smith's glove as he attempted to hook. Ormond followed Mullally's dismissal of Fulton by also accounting for Wells and Llong. At this stage he had taken three for 12 in 18 balls, and when Ward, after making 51 from 37 balls, with eight spanking fours and a six, mistimed and was comfortably caught by the bowler, Kent stared at disaster once more.

As the world knows, Ealham gives 100 per cent whenever he is called on. Maybe less well known is Strang's powerful mixture of orthodox defence and often agricultural attack. Each wore down Leicestershire in his own way and set Kent back on their feet, which for them is just as well. The pitch is good and Headley's strained side has kept him out, though he expects to be fit for the fourth Test match.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Ward is caught and bowled by Pierson shortly after reaching his half-century at Canterbury yesterday

Hick leads way in New Road run feast

By John Thicknesse

WORCESTER (first day of three; Pakistan A won toss): Pakistan A, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 99 runs behind Worcestershire

A FIRM pitch 55 yards from the pavilion and a quick outfield produced a run feast at New Road. Of the 431 runs scored in six hours 50 minutes, all but 121 came in fours and sixes, which numbered 73 and three respectively.

The bowlers held their own, however, Ali Rizvi taking five for 68 with flattish wrist-spin for the touriing team, and Maneer Mirza, a 19-year-old seamer, collecting a wicket on his debut for the county.

Graeme Hick, captaining Worcestershire for the first time in the absence of Moody, Rhodes and Illingworth, played the innings of the day, but he was almost upstaged by Ali Naqvi. Having put together 114 last week in a vain attempt to stave off defeat by MCC, Naqvi opened his 29-ball frolic yesterday with a four over mid-off in Sheriyar's first over and added seven more boundaries before being trapped leg-before. Salim Elahi, striking 11 fours in his fifty, stayed in until the close for 78 not out.

In Worcestershire's innings, Hick was on course for a hundred before lunch until he was caught in the covers off a skier attempting a third straight six in successive overs off Rizvi.

Out of their depth as the touring team might have been bowling to a batsman of Hick's power, the ease with which he dominated play was remarkable. While he was making 55 off 48 balls, including two sixes and ten fours, Weston and Spiring scored 11 runs between them. Untypically, it was Hick's third highest first-class score of the summer, following hundreds against Gloucestershire and Oxford University.

Ponting grasps his main chance

By Ivo Tennant

CARDIFF (first day of three; Glamorgan won toss); Glamorgan, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 339 runs behind the Australians

DURING the 1960s, when Glamorgan twice beat the Australians, their players regarded themselves as representing Wales in their very own Test matches. It was all rather friendlier than that yesterday.

Although Matthew Maynard was without his three leading bowlers, he gave the touring team the opportunity to make use of an even-paced pitch. Ricky Ponting enhanced his chances of playing in the fourth Test next week with his first century of the summer.

Ponting has had a bit-part on this tour. This was only his third first-class innings, the others having realised 19, against Nottinghamshire, and 64, against Leicestershire. It was significant that he came in three places in the order above Bevan, who did not bat and whose place for the fourth Test is evidently in jeopardy.

The placement of Ponting in the middle order, followed by Slater and then Langer, who reached a half-century just before the declaration, would suggest that that is Taylor's order of preference. No doubt he would have liked them to have faced a more testing attack as, for expedient reasons as well as injuries, there was no Waqar, Watkin or Croft. Parkin was playing in a first-class match for the first time this season as, for that matter, was Metson, who is taking a benefit and who kept wicket as tightly as in the past.

Taylor, too, will not have found this sufficient preparation for Headingley, for he found that he could do much as he liked against an attack lacking in experience and, initially, direction. The captain struck nine fours and a six swung over square leg off Cosker before he failed to clear the fielder at deep mid-wicket. Morris, running in, held a good, low catch.

Blewett made a half-century in his stylish way, full of skimming drives and, when he played on to Butcher, Ponting and Langer came together and added an unbroken 123, a record for the fifth wicket for the Australians against Glamorgan. The declaration came earlier than expected, as if Taylor was responding to Maynard's munificence in giving his side what amounted to decent batting practice.

Ponting finished unbeaten on 126 off 170 balls, with 16 fours. Like all of these Australians, he rarely misses the opportunity to make the most of any bowler who strays in length or direction. He deserves his chance at the highest level, not least because Bevan has made only 43 runs in five innings in the Test series this summer.

Glamorgan were left with eight overs of batting and James and Morris survived without loss.

THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME

THE TIMES ITC INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET

IN ASSOCIATION WITH AXA EQUITY & LAW

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
1	Porlus (W Clarke)	15245
2	14 Lobs (P Johnson)	15057
3	The Twins (B Collinson)	14949
4	Ace All Rounders (A Eade)	14906
5	Three Lobs (P Johnson)	14900
6	Fantasy Formbk I (G Crutchley)	14899
7	Four Ian Bothams (P Johnson)	14890
8	All Round Ability (W Burnett)	14865
9	Kalb's Corkers 4 (N Kalb)	14844
10	Fantasy Formbk D (G Crutchley)	14829
11	Becardi Boys (M Woodley)	14818
12	Rug Catchers (A Rees)	14786
13	Colemans Balls (D Blackburn)	14757
14	Fantasy Formbk E (G Crutchley)	14704
15	M J S 1 (M Squires)	14701
16	Fantasy Formbk H (G Crutchley)	14654
17	Wansford House 3 (PR O'Brien)	14637
18	Ian's Imperials (IAN JOHNSTON)	14631
19	Lemar Old Boys (P Tranter)	14615
20	Injury Free X I (U Hunt)	14605
21	Tobitt (A Luckhurst)	14603
22	NOW AND GO H A P (N Johns)	14574
23	Pinewood 3 (DM Carter)	14547
24	Daves Dosers (D Tattoo)	14506
25	Orchid M & O (N Johns)	14504
26	Friday Night X I (B McFerran)	14501
27=	Fantasy Formbk G (G Crutchley)	14472
27=	Veritys Vintage No ()	14472
29	All Rounders X I (N Pember)	14431
30	Points Galore (D Fenton)	14421
31	Hursts Cack Hander (R Jackson)	14419
32=	Jones Boys One (M Jones)	14414
32=	The Braughing Duck (P Moore)	14414
34	Cats Eyes (N Marchant)	14410
35	Doodyleds (J Royston)	14400
36	Roe Roe Roe Your B (R Roe)	14396
37	Off To A Good Star (J Swirles)	14386
38	Webbers Post (EG Evans)	14347
39	No More Fridays Ou (I Ellis)	14346
40	Nine Ian Bothams (P Johnson)	14345
41	Don't Forget To Ru (P Rowans)	14338
42	Dave's Dependables (D Tattoo)	14321
43	Alisa Angels (A Wood)	14318
44	Bearded Blunders (JM Brown)	14317
45	Gazza's Guys (C Hawkins)	14289
46	Cod And Chips Part (P Stebbings)	14274
47	Caroline C (A Luckhurst)	14270
48	Debt Release (S Lamber)	14266
49	The 1997 X I (Miss JM Hutchin)	14255
50	Fantastic (P Sainsbury)	14244
51	Dawns Dynamos (Miss D Shepherd)	14237
52	Diamond White (R White)	14232
53	Jimmyshire C C (JAD Curthoys)	14229
54	Willow Cricketers (Mrs WJ Barber)	14201
55	Wells Fargo (BE Howes)	14199
56	Daves Demons (D Taggoo)	14193
57	Monty Bears (M White)	14192
58	Caspian 1st X I (D Chandler)	14191
59	Toby Ross (A Luckhurst)	14186
60	Windy's Warriors (G Miller)	14182
61	S R S In The Press (SP Vann)	14181
62	Meg's Eleven (S Simmons)	14176
63	The Grim Team (J Swain)	14175
64	Star Wars 2 (Z Ali)	14165
65	Letting Rip (D Finlay)	14144
66	Thunder Bunnies (Miss DC Bates)	14140
67	Sarawana (R Knowle)	14139
68	The Runrats (D Tattoo)	14130
69	Floppy Fat Bellies (D Sharp)	14113
70	Tory Boys (G Jackson)	14112
71=	Cowshot Corner (O Mitchell)	14111
71=	Off Spinners In A (A Milroy)	14111
73=	Aj County Xi (A Taylor)	14107
73=	Ward's Wickstaker' (AB Ward)	14107
73=	Rob's Barmy Army (R Anderson)	14107
76	Paulines Stars (Ms P Howell)	14106
77	The Band Played On (M Reed)	14101
78	R Spoy's X I (W Webb)	14081
79	The Sunshine Brand (J Shepherd)	14080
80	Spike Thomas Eleve (TE Webb)	14071
81	Shadow Leader 1 (D Findlay)	14067
82	Retirement Hero's (M Pettman)	14063
83	Sharps Eleven (M Sharp)	14058
84	Kim's Best (D Geraghty)	14053
85=	Kamikaze Bowler (D Finlay)	14040
85=	Class Warriors 2 (S King)	14040
87	Huntastic (A Frazer)	14032
88=	Melvyn Maldini X I (ID Wray)	14027
88=	Wibbly Wobbly's X (JD Wibberley)	14027
90	Fairweather Xi (MH Hawkes)	14025
91=	Caroline A (A Luckhurst)	14021
91=	Sam's The Man 3 (G Sampson)	14021
93	The Funky Monkeys (A Moss)	14016
94	Ken's First X I (K Hannah)	14002
95	Three Gee's Team (R Ariyaratnam)	13998
96	We Dont Mean This (J Moss)	13984
97	Bildad's Shoes (T Sherlock)	13982
98	Fantasy Formbk B (G Crutchley)	13977
99	D A M A R C (D Thorn)	13976
100	Browns X I (Ms M Brown)	13974

INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

The scores in the first four columns cover the past week; the final column is the player's overall points total. The figures include all matches completed by July 14. Overseas players are shown in **bold type**. Rising Stars in *italic*.

Batsmen (001-146)

Category A

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Weekly total	Overall total
C J Adams (001)	210	0	0	230	1340
G F Archer (002)	12	0	0	12	805
M A Atherton (003)	2	0	0	2	1095
C W J Athey (004)	28	0	1	48	984
R J Bailey (005)	23	3	0	83	1437
K J Barnett (006)	111	0	1	141	534
D J Bicknell (007)	0	0	0	0	179
G S Blewett (008)	0	0	0	0	729
D C Boon (009)	28	0	0	28	922
P D Bowler (010)	44	0	1	64	1250
A D Brown (011)	21	0	1	41	872
M A Butcher (012)	35	0	3	95	1228
P A Cottey (013)	5	0	1	25	721
J P Crawley (014)	113	0	0	123	1034
K M Curran (015)	9	0	0	9	1189
M T G Elliott (016)	0	0	0	0	1040
N H Fairbrother (017)	0	0	0	0	825
J E R Gallian (018)	1	0	0	1	806
M W Gatting (019)	6	0	0	6	857
G A Gooch (020)	0	0	0	0	491
M L Hayden (021)	52	0	1	72	1721
D L Hemp (022)	79	0	0	84	991
G A Hick (023)	194	0	0	204	1472
A J Hollioake (024)	7	1	0	27	1103
N Hussain (025)	1	0	0	1	1185
S P James (026)	69	0	1	94	1309
D M Jones (027)	0	0	0	0	554
J H Kallis (028)	100	4	0	190	1217
N V Knight (029)	0	0	0	0	894
M S Laney (030)	44	0	1	64	607
M N Lathwell (031)	3	0	0	3	565
G D Lloyd (032)	4	0	0	4	868
M B Loye (033)	2	0	3	62	553
M P Maynard (034)	30	0	1	50	1030
A McGrath (035)	64	0	0	64	345
R R Montgomerie (036)	0	0	0	-0	230
T M Moody (037)	55	1	0	75	743
H Morris (038)	53	0	1	78	874
M D Moxon (039)	74	0	0	79	432
T L Penney (040)	29	0	0	29	877
M R Ramprakash (041)	42	0	1	62	1248
R T Robinson (042)	9	0	0	9	417
P V Simmons (043)	0	0	0	0	0
M J Slater (044)	0	0	0	0	85
B F Smith (045)	4	0	1	24	390
R A Smith (046)	168	0	1	198	1146
A J Stewart (047)	101	0	2	146	1876
M A Taylor (048)	0	0	0	0	723
G P Thorpe (049)	17	0	4	77	1526
M P Vaughan (050)	0	0	0	0	692
T R Ward (051)	15	0	0	15	861
M E Waugh (052)	0	0	0	0	795
S R Waugh (053)	0	0	0	0	994
A P Wells (054)	5	0	0	5	824
V J Wells (055)	0	1	0	0	1261
W P C Weston (056)	0	0	0	-20	499
J J Whitaker (057)	5	0	0	5	891

Category B

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Weekly total	Overall total
D A Blenkiron (058)	0	0	0	0	0
D Byas (059)	6	0	1	26	1420
[illegible] E Cassar (060)	0	0	0	0	117
S R Cowdrey (061)	8	0	0	8	523
R J Cunliffe (062)	45	0	0	45	523
T S Curtis (063)	41	0	0	41	513
A Dale (064)	71	1	0	96	649
J A Daley (065)	0	0	0	0	20
R I Dawson (066)	0	0	0	0	1
M P Dowman (067)	0	0	0	0	629
A W Evans (068)	0	0	0	0	33
A Flintoff (069)	2	0	0	2	218
A Fordham (070)	0	0	0	0	84
D P Fulton (071)	0	0	0	0	924
A P Grayson (072)	82	1	1	127	1602
K Greenfield (073)	191	0	2	246	787
A Habib (074)	0	0	0	0	510
T H C Hancock (075)	24	0	0	24	668
R J Harden (076)	0	0	0	0	565
J C Harrison (077)	0	0	0	0	0
A N Hayhurst (078)	0	0	0	0	60
G R Haynes (079)	0	0	0	0	1113
D R Hewson (080)	0	0	0	0	0
A J Hibbert (081)	0	0	0	0	77
T P Hodgson (082)	0	0	0	0	143
P C L Holloway (083)	73	0	1	93	870
W J House (084)	0	0	0	0	389
S Hutton (085)	57	0	1	82	82
P Johnson (086)	18	0	2	58	864
M Keech (087)	87	0	1	112	420
W S Kendall (088)	31	0	0	31	578
G J Kennis (089)	0	0	0	0	69
R A Kettleborough (090)	0	0	0	0	50
G A Khan (091)	25	0	1	45	176
W G Khan (092)	0	0	0	0	169
D A Leatherdale (093)	21	0	0	21	1206
N J Lenham (094)	35	0	0	35	377
J J B Lewis (095)	0	0	0	0	752
N J Llong (096)	42	0	0	42	841
M A Lynch (097)	124	0	0	134	954
G I Macmillan (098)	0	0	0	0	152
D L Maddy (099)	0	0	0	-20	1111
M R May (100)	5	0	0	5	225
P C McKeown (101)	0	0	0	0	209
A A Metcalfe (102)	11	0	0	11	333
S P Moffat (103)	0	0	0	0	295
A J Moles (104)	21	0	0	21	679
J E Morris (105)	14	0	0	14	998
K Newell (106)	35	3	1	115	798
D P Ostler (107)	78	0	1	103	870
J E Owen (108)	0	0	0	0	136
K A Parsons (109)	53	3	0	118	1020
S D Peters (110)	0	0	0	0	202
P R Pollard (111)	89	0	1	114	643
J C Pooley (112)	79	0	0	84	800
M J Powell (113)	0	0	0	0	60
P J Prichard (114)	1	0	0	1	735
T A Radford (115)	0	0	0	0	181
R K Rao (116)	4	0	2	44	522
J D Ratcliffe (117)	3	0	0	3	714
D J Roberts (118)	0	0	0	0	101
D D J Robinson (119)	0	0	0	0	520
A S Rollins (120)	42	0	0	42	778
M A Roseberry (121)	0	0	0	0	50
D J G Sales (122)	0	0	1	0	265
O A Shah (123)	8	0	1	28	170
N Shahid (124)	0	0	0	0	304
A Singh (125)	14	0	0	14	359
E T Smith (126)	0	0	0	0	380
N J Speak (127)	0	0	0	0	471
K R Spiring (128)	53	0	1	73	713
J P Stephenson (129)	1	9	0	191	1301
I J Sutcliffe (130)	90	0	0	95	525
A J Swann (131)	0	0	0	0	0
N R Taylor (132)	8	0	0	8	453
S P Titchard (133)	0	0	0	0	260
N J Trainor (134)	29	0	0	29	565
M E Trescothick (135)	0	0	0	0	47
T A Tweats (136)	0	0	0	0	159
M J Walker (137)	6	0	0	6	822
M A Wagh (138)	0	0	0	0	854
C D Walsh (139)	0	0	0	0	0
T C Walton (140)	0	0	0	-20	419
P E Wellings (141)	0	0	0	0	33
R M S Weston (142)	0	0	0	0	0
P R Whitaker (143)	0	0	0	0	0
G W White (144)	0	0	0	0	357
M G N Windows (145)	0	0	0	0	0
A J Wright (146)	19	0	1	39	839

All-rounders (147-185)

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Weekly total	Overall total
M W Alleyne (147)	56	5	1	176	1471
I D Austin (148)	97	2	0	142	1049
M G Bevan (149)	0	0	0	0	803
D R Brown (150)	25	1	0	45	1395
G P Butcher (151)	11	0	0	11	435
D J Capel (152)	0	0	0	0	359
P D Collingwood (153)	0	0	0	0	539
D G Cork (154)	0	0	0	0	0
R D B Croft (155)	0	1	0	0	1598
P A J DeFreitas (156)	24	4	1	124	934
V C Drakes (157)	0	2	0	40	759
K P Dutch (158)	6	1	1	46	421
M A Ealham (159)	52	1	0	77	1508
S C Ecclestone (160)	102	0	0	107	588
K P Evans (161)	12	2	0	52	969
M V Fleming (162)	7	0	1	27	1294
J P Hewitt (163)	0	1	1	40	1215
K J Innes (164)	0	0	0	0	53
R C Irani (165)	79	2	0	124	1156
K D James (166)	0	0	0	0	946
B P Julian (167)	0	0	0	0	304
S R Lampitt (168)	10	0	2	30	1039
D R Law (169)	0	0	0	0	1045
S G Law (170)	100	0	0	110	1527
C C Lewis (171)	15	4	0	95	981
A C Morris (172)	17	0	0	17	295
A L Penberthy (173)	62	0	1	87	984
G M Roberts (174)	0	0	0	0	56
N M K Smith (175)	13	1	1	53	1160
J N Snape (176)	54	0	0	59	905
V S Solanki (177)	9	1	0	29	423
P A Strang (178)	23	0	1	43	1622
C M Tolley (179)	54	7	1	214	719
Wasim Akram (180)	0	0	0	0	268
M Watkinson (181)	36	1	0	56	387
P N Weekes (182)	4	1	1	44	1125
C M Wells (183)	0	0	0	0	0
C White (184)	104	0	1	129	1487
S Young (185)	11	3	0	51	1230

Wicketkeepers (186-216)

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Weekly total	Overall total
A N Aymes (186)	11	0	7	151	1115
J N Batty (187)	0	0	0	0	8
R J Blakey (188)	9	0	1	29	1375
K R Brown (189)	18	0	2	58	1460
M Burns (190)	63	0	0	68	842
C A Chapman (191)	0	0	0	0	0
I Dawood (192)	1	0	0	1	1
T Frost (193)	0	0	1	20	490
S P Griffiths (194)	0	0	0	0	61
I A Healy (195)	0	0	0	0	1202
W K Hegg (196)	0	0	0	0	1026
B J Hyam (197)	0	0	0	0	189
D A Kenway (198)	0	0	0	0	82
K M Krikken (199)	1	0	3	61	878
D G C Ligertwood (200)	0	0	0	0	0
S A Marsh (201)	24	0	0	24	1063
C P Metson (202)	0	0	0	0	0
P Moores (203)	8	0	1	28	887
P A Nixon (204)	14	0	1	34	1211
W M Noon (205)	25	0	2	65	891
K J Piper (206)	13	0	3	73	186
S J Rhodes (207)	13	0	2	53	1074
D Ripley (208)	0	0	0	0	679
R J Rollins (209)	0	0	0	0	970
R C Russell (210)	23	0	3/1	123	1588
A D Shaw (211)	34	0	0	34	756
M P Speight (212)	64	0	0	69	1292
R J Turner (213)	1	0	5	81	1228
R J Warren (214)	0	0	1/1	40	452
P Whitticase (215)	0	0	0	0	0
R C J Williams (216)	0	0	0	0	0

Bowlers (217-347)

Category A

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Weekly total	Overall total
J A Afford (217)	0	0	0	0	0
S J W Andrew (218)	0	0	0	0	20
M C J Ball (219)	21	2	2	101	856
R T Bates (220)	13	0	2	53	503
J E Benjamin (221)	0	0	0	0	330
M M Betts (222)	0	0	0	0	276
M P Bicknell (223)	24	4	0	104	1204
J N B Bovill (224)	0	0	0	0	538
M T Brimson (225)	0	0	0	0	265
S J E Brown (226)	0	1	1	40	652
A R Caddick (227)	5	4	1	105	1522
G Chapple (228)	0	0	0	0	678
C A Connor (229)	0	3	0	60	244
A P Cowan (230)	0	2	0	40	1318
D M Cox (231)	0	0	0	0	84
R P Davis (232)	1	1	0	1	232
A A Donald (233)	0	4	1	100	889
A R C Fraser (234)	0	0	0	0	958
A F Giles (235)	13	1	0	33	1029
J N Gillespie (236)	0	0	0	0	493
D Gough (237)	10	2	0	60	1509
A J Harris (238)	0	4	0	80	746
P J Hartley (239)	9	2	1	69	1173
D W Headley (240)	3	0	0	3	577
R K Illingworth (241)	0	0	0	0	0
M C Ilott (243)	0	0	0	0	799
P W Jarvis (243)	0	3	0	40	685
R L Johnson (244)	0	2	0	40	1073
G Keedy (245)	0	0	0	0	151
R J Kirtley (246)	0	4	0	80	593
J D Lewry (247)	0	0	0	0	0
M J McCague (248)	0	1	0	0	949
G D McGrath (249)	0	0	0	0	943
D E Malcolm (250)	0	7	0	150	1061
P J Martin (251)	0	0	0	0	1115
R J Maru (252)	0	0	1	20	215
D J Millns (253)	3	0	0	3	905
Mohammad Akram (254)	0	1	0	20	297
A D Mullally (256)	0	0	0	0	768
T A Munton (256)	0	0	0	0	0
Mushtaq Ahmed (257)	10	4	2	130	885
P J Newport (258)	2	1	0	22	680
G J Parsons (259)	8	3	0	68	543
M M Patel (260)	0	0	0	0	0
R M Pearson (261)	0	0	0	0	61
A R K Pierson (262)	0	0	0	0	505
P R Reiffel (263)	0	0	0	0	541
G D Rose (264)	31	4	1	131	1679
I D K Salisbury (265)	5	3	0	65	693
A Sheriyar (266)	1	1	0	1	907
K J Shine (267)	0	0	0	0	930
C E W Silverwood (268)	1	1	0	21	736
A M Smith (269)	12	4	1	112	1325
R D Stemp (270)	1	5	0	101	1023
P M Such (271)	0	1	0	20	1040
J P Taylor (272)	6	2	0	46	981
P C R Tufnell (273)	0	0	0	0	490
S D Udal (274)	91	3	1	176	1205
S K Warne (275)	0	0	0	0	1405
Waqar Younis (276)	8	1	0	28	1187
S L Watkin (277)	0	1	0	20	786
N F Williams (278)	0	1	1	40	287
J Wood (279)	0	0	0	0	104

Category B

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Weekly total	Overall total
U Afzaal (280)	0	0	0	0	649
P Aldred (281)	0	0	0	0	608
D A Altree (282)	0	0	0	0	40
G J Batty (283)	0	0	0	0	0
M A V Bell (284)	0	0	0	0	0
J Boiling (285)	0	1	0	20	483
M N Bowen (286)	8	3	0	68	1067
J E Brinkley (287)	0	0	0	0	7
J F Brown (288)	0	0	0	0	80
R J Chapman (289)	0	3	0	40	303
V P Clarke (290)	101	3	1	186	1192
D A Cosker (291)	0	0	0	0	486
D M Cousins (292)	0	0	0	0	0
A P Davies (293)	0	0	0	0	0
K J Dean (294)	0	2	0	40	560
R R Dibden (295)	0	0	0	0	0
M Dimond (296)	0	0	0	0	4
S W K Ellis (297)	0	0	0	0	0
J E Emburey (298)	1	1	0	21	428
R A Fay (299)	0	0	0	0	63
D Follett (300)	0	0	0	0	188
M J Foster (301)	0	0	0	0	863
P J Franks (302)	4	1	0	24	665
R J Green (303)	0	0	0	0	20
G M Hamilton (304)	0	0	0	0	250
S Herzberg (305)	0	0	0	0	126
J E Hindson (306)	0	0	0	0	232
B C Hollioake (307)	98	1	0	103	748
J G Hughes (308)	0	0	0	0	85
P M Hutchison (309)	0	0	0	0	0
A P Igglesden (310)	0	0	0	0	20
J I D Kerr (311)	0	2	1	40	661
N Killeen (312)	0	0	0	0	225
J Lewis (313)	3	0	0	3	783
S Lugsden (314)	0	0	0	0	24
R S C Martin-Jenkins (315)	0	0	0	0	68
A D Mascarenhas (316)	0	0	0	0	84
T J Mason (317)	36	0	0	36	312
S M Milburn (318)	0	0	0	0	38
R W Nowell (319)	0	0	0	0	0
J Ormond (320)	0	0	0	0	277
O T Parkin (321)	0	0	0	0	0
M W Patterson (322)	0	0	0	0	0
B J Phillips (323)	0	0	0	0	792
N C Phillips (324)	0	0	0	0	56
R A Pick (325)	0	0	0	0	223
N W Preston (326)	0	0	0	0	28
M Rawnsley (327)	0	0	0	0	47
S J Renshaw (328)	0	2	0	40	898
M A Robinson (329)	0	2	0	20	638
M J Saggers (330)	0	0	0	0	329
J P Searle (331)	0	0	0	0	0
D J Shadford (332)	0	0	0	0	456
K P Sheeraz (333)	0	0	0	0	84
G C Small (334)	4	3	0	64	515
E J Stanford (335)	0	0	0	0	52
S D Thomas (336)	1	2	0	41	869
J B Thompson (337)	0	0	0	0	460
M J Thursfield (338)	0	0	0	0	154
H R J Trump (339)	0	0	0	0	101
A J Tudor (340)	0	0	0	0	341
M J Vandrau (341)	0	0	0	0	82
A P van Troost (342)	0	0	0	0	106
A Walker (343)	0	3	1	80	716
G Welch (344)	25	1	0	45	1239
A G Wharf (345)	0	0	0	0	0
T N Wren (346)	0	0	0	0	51
G Yates (347)	0	0	0	0	605

☐ One point is awarded for each run, 20 points for each wicket and catch and 40 points for each stumping.

Five bonus points are awarded for a half-century, ten bonus points are awarded for a century and for five wickets in an innings, and 20 bonus points are awarded for ten wickets in a match.

Twenty points are deducted for a duck.

All points scored in Test matches are doubled.

☐ *Source: ECB/PA Cricket Record*

One man of Kent who cheered Surrey victory

MR E QUANTRILL, of Gillingham, Kent, is the winner of the weekly prize for the Interactive Team Cricket game.

Mr Quantrill's team, Young Neds XI, scored 1,358 points and he must surely have been one of the few cricket followers in Kent to have a lot to cheer about after that county's defeat by Surrey in the final of the Benson and Hedges Cup at Lord's.

Young Neds XI have three Surrey men in their team; the Hollioake brothers, Adam and Ben, and Alec Stewart. Ben Hollioake gained 103 points with an innings of 98, which won him the man-of-the-match award, while Stewart earned 146 points when scoring an unbeaten 75.

John Stephenson, the Hampshire captain, accrued 191 points partly due to taking six for 16 in their victory over Worcestershire in the Axa Life League on Sunday.

This week's prize is a signed, and framed, photograph of a player of the year, an England cap, signed by England players, a first edition of the *PCA Year Book '97*, signed by members of the Professional Cricketers' Association, and two tickets to a day at an Ashes Test.

YOUNG NEDS XI: Batsmen: A J Hollioake (Surrey), A J Stewart (Surrey), A Dales (Glamorgan), A P Grayson (Essex), J P Stephenson (Hampshire) All-rounder: R C Irani (Essex). Wicket-keeper: R C Russell (Gloucestershire) Bowlers: A R Caddick (Somerset), Mushtaq Ahmed (Somerset); V P Clarke (Derbyshire), B C Hollioake (Surrey).

PCA

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

EACH team, depending on when it is registered, will be allocated a number of transfer allowances. If you register in May your team will be allocated ten transfers, in June you will be allocated eight transfers, in July six, in August four and in September two.

You may use as many or as few as you wish but they must replace like for like, ie one bowler for another bowler. All transfers must be made before a first-class match. Transfer periods will be set weekly and any transfers made in one transfer period will become effective for the matches which begin within the next transfer period.

The transfer line opened on Wednesday May 21 and will remain open for the season. Transfers must be made by midnight on a Monday in order to be effective for any first-class matches beginning after that date. Transfers may only be made by telephone by calling

0891 884 828 (0990 100 348 outside UK)

YOU may check your team score and position in ITC by calling

0891 884 824 (0990 100 348 outside UK)

QUERIES on all other ITC matters, including details of how to enter, should be made to

01582 702720

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'I've told my crew how difficult it is to come down at the end'

Welcome home to grim reality

By Michael Calvin

THE crew stood in the shadows thrown by the spotlight that illuminated the mainsail of the yacht, *Group 4*, in the early hours of yesterday. They were silhouettes, somehow stripped of their humanity by the darkness. One voyage of self-discovery was about to end, and another, equally intimidating, begin.

The BT Global Challenge may be billed as the world's toughest yacht race, but even that dubious claim disguises the depth of the examination of character it provides. As absurd as it seems, given the mythology of the sea, sailing around the world the wrong way, against prevailing winds and tides, is the easy bit.

Though the scale of the task is daunting, it has a seductive simplicity. The amateur crews who returned to Southampton yesterday may have circumnavigated the globe, but they have been cloistered in a small, self-absorbed world. It is an unreal, occasionally unhealthy, existence that can form lifelong friendships and enduring enmities.

BT Global Challenge

GILL ALLEN

Golding, far right, and his crew celebrate after their triumphant return to Southampton in the early hours yesterday

The emotions released by their 33,000-mile odyssey, which compressed ten years' living into ten months, have surprising strength. Naturally enough, as fireworks were released to welcome the fleet, they were initially expressed in tears of joy. Typically, Grahame Gibson, a member of Mike Golding's winning crew on *Group 4*, had the glassy-eyed air of a man in shock.

"This is the ultimate, the pinnacle of everything I've ever done," he said. "It is the first time what we have achieved has really sunk in. I am sure it has changed me. You go through tremendous highs and lows for month after month. You learn so much about yourself.

"I'm different to the person who left here last September. Out there, I've come to terms with my weaknesses. Everyone has them and I can now manage mine. My strengths have become stronger. I can approach the future with such confidence."

Optimism, like the soft-focus view of the world that comes courtesy of unlimited champagne after weeks on a diet of freeze-dried mush, fades all too quickly. The race is, to use the words of its youngest crewman, Paul Sherwood, "an excellent adventure". But these crews will soon be confronted by the realities and responsibilities of the lives they left behind.

When I returned from sailing in Sir Chay Blyth's inaugural British Steel Challenge race four years ago, it took me three months to come to terms with the rigidity of the structure of what passes as normal life.

Shared lessons have been applied by my former watch-leader, Andy Hindley, a notably successful skipper of third-placed *Save the Children*. "I realised what I was letting myself in for at the start of all this," he said. "It doesn't make it any easier to deal with, and I've told my crew over and over again how difficult it will be for them to come down, at the end of the race. They've got to have something else to focus on.

"Potentially, the hardest point of the race comes right now, when they've got to get off the boat. They'll party for a couple of days, and then it all finishes and they'll have to go home. That's the big emotional hit. I've prepared them for it, but I'll give them my phone number just in case. I'll be there if they need me."

They will, assuredly. Sean Blowers, the actor, sailed on *Commercial Union Assurance* until the yacht reached Wellington, in New Zealand, when he had to retire from the race with back problems that required surgery. Yesterday, six months on, he radiated an overwhelming sense of loss.

"I'm having to come to terms with those horrible things, like bills, mortgages, careers," he said. "However bad it is at sea, it is still easier than what we call normality. There is nothing else to think about but sailing the boat as fast as possible.

"I was hoping to rejoin the boat, but it was never really on the cards. I did too much damage. Recovering from that blow is all part of the challenge. You've just got to get a grip on things, but I have to say its hard to keep the tears back."

Relationships must be rebuilt. Simon Walker, the skipper of second-placed *Toshiba Wave Warrior*, is quietly resentful at not having the opportunity to see his two children grow up. "I really did miss them," he said. "It's a biological function. On a couple of the long legs I've sat on my own and wished I was not there."

But there are compensations, expressed most eloquently by *Save the Children* crew member, Phillip White. "Chay used to tell us: 'No Guts, No Glory'," he said. "Well, I'm glad I had the guts to do this, and grateful for the glory it has given me."

DETAILS

LATEST POSITIONS (at 16:02GMT yesterday): 1, Group 4 finished at 01 06:58; 2, Toshiba Wave Warrior 02.39:46; 3, Concert 04.07.41; 4, Save the Children 14:32:23; 5, Commercial Union 14:33:59; 6, Nuclear Electric 7 miles from Southampton; 7, Global Teamwork 10; 8, Ocean Rover 14; 9, 3Com 19; 10, Heath Insured II 19; 11, Courtaulds International 22; 12, Pause to Remember 22; 12, Motorola 22; 14, Team & Tide 113

CYCLING: UKRAINIAN'S SWING TO LEFT PRESENTS TOUR STAGE TO FRENCHMAN

Outschakov relegated to third place

By Jeremy Whittle

THE Tour de France saw another controversial stage finish in the old Roman city of Perpignan yesterday when Serguei Outschakov, of Ukraine, was relegated to third place for dangerous sprinting and victory awarded to Laurent Desbiens, of France. Outschakov crossed the line at the head of a three-man breakaway but was judged to have unfairly blocked Desbiens, who came perilously close to crashing into the crowd barriers.

Against the backdrop of the rapidly receding Pyrenees, Outschakov, Desbiens and Carlo Finco, of Italy, took advantage of a brief drop in the pace to slip clear as the race headed across the arid lowlands of Languedoc.

With most of the riders happy to recuperate from their efforts in the mountains, only Christ Boardman's GAN team working for their winless sprinter, Frederic Moncassin, showed any interest in pursuing the breakaways, who stayed clear into the streets of Perpignan, where the canny Outschakov did his best to make up for the lacklustre showing of his team leader, the French star, Luc Leblanc.

Desbiens managed a surge in the final 100 metres only to find his path blocked by the Ukrainian's sudden move to his left. "I was clear of him," a crestfallen Outschakov said. "My advantage was good and he had room to pass."

A weary and stiff Boardman finished the stage with the main field. He is still in pain from his neck injury but remains hopeful of recovering some of his best form before the race enters the Alps on Saturday.

"My legs felt stronger today," he said before flying north to the Massif Central for the rest day today for the 175 competitors left in the race.

Results, page 43

IN BRIEF

Rusedski pulls out

GREG RUSEDSKI is to withdraw from the Northern Electric Open tennis tournament in Jesmond next week after aggravating a groin injury in his second-round defeat by Magnus Larsson, of Sweden, in the Mercedes Cup in Stuttgart yesterday.

The British No 2 was hampered by the injury — which he originally suffered in his match-winning Davis Cup display against Ukraine in Kiev last weekend — during his 7-6, 6-7, 6-4 defeat by the Swede.

SHOOTING: Scotland won the Elcho Shield for match rifle teams of eight at Bisley yesterday by setting a record score of 1,723.177.

RUGBY UNION: Dave Sims, the England A lock, will miss the first eight weeks of Gloucester's season because of an Achilles tendon injury.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

MOBIUS STRIP

(b) A surface having only one side and one edge. It is formed by twisting one end of a rectangular strip, eg a ribbon, through 180 degrees and joining it to the other end. Named after Augustus Mobius (1790-1868).

KLEPHT

(a) One of a body of Greeks who refused to submit to the Turks after the conquest of Greece in the 15th century.

CANNIZZARO

(c) Stanislao Cannizzaro (1826-1910) gave his name to a reaction of aldehydes with caustic alkali. When aldehydes containing no H atoms on the a-carbon atom are treated in the cold with concentrated aqueous or alcoholic sodium hydroxide, dismutation involving two molecules takes place. One molecule is reduced to the alcohol, while the other is oxidised to a salt of the corresponding carboxylic acid.

HAZARD CHASE

(b) Hazard is the court away from the server, who always serves from one end. A chase is a line parallel to the net. It also designates the point of impact of second bounce when the player has not returned. The value is determined by the nearness of the bounce to the end wall. Ends are changed, and if the player now serving can get a bounce nearer the end he scores it. If not, it is scored by the first player. Until it is so decided, the chase is a stroke in abeyance.

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TELEVISION CHOICE

Behind the ugly façades

How Buildings Learn: The Low Road
BBC2, 7.30pm

Stewart Brand began his series by castigating architects for designing buildings that look wonderful but do not work. He now moves on to structures so low in the scale that no architect would have been near them. But he argues that sheds, shacks, garages, disused warehouses and mobile homes support the real creativity of a civilisation. It is a big claim but he does his best to support it. His own office is a converted fishing boat and we also drop in on converted holiday chalets near Swansea, a recording studio in a Suffolk garage and a warehouse in California used by a toy manufacturer. Brand even has a good word for the unlovely Elephant and Castle shopping centre in south London, behind whose garish pink exterior lurk a host of unlikely activities including, of all things, tea dances.

Airport
BBC1, 8.00pm

Another cleverly edited slice of life from Heathrow Airport features Garth, a customs officer, Jean, a traffic warden, and a couple of hacks called Steve and Russell. Steve, the reporter, and Russell, the photographer, are acting on a tip that Al Pacino is flying in from the United States to promote his new film. But the flights come and go and there is no sign of the great man, unless he has managed to fool these seasoned celebrity watchers by slipping past them in disguise. The Pacino stakeout provides a delicious running gag, as does the plight of standby passengers trying to get home to Egypt for Christmas. Meanwhile the brisk and chirpy Jean is busy issuing parking tickets as motorists ignore Heathrow's abundance of double yellow lines and Garth attends to the weightier matter of alleged cocaine smuggling from the Caribbean.

The Men With Nine Lives
Channel 4, 8.00pm

This documentary about bomb disposal men in Northern Ireland not only deserves its repeat but remains sadly topical. It is a story of, essentially, each side trying to outwit the other. As the terrorist bombs get more sophisticated so do the methods of defusing them, which in turn inspires the bomb makers to new levels of ingenuity. It hardly needs to be said that approaching a bomb requires special courage. Even in simulation, as on the army's rigorous training course, the dismantling of an explosive device is a tense affair. A promising development has been the "wheelbarrow", a radio-controlled robot which can deal with the bomb without personnel having to go near it. We hear, too, from Shane O'Doherty, a former IRA man, on the hazards of making and placing bombs. It is an honest contribution but not one likely to arouse much sympathy.

Searching for a story (BBC1, 8pm)

Trial and Error
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Tonight's alleged miscarriage of justice concerns John Kamara, who is serving life for the murder of a betting shop manager in Liverpool. The killing took place in March 1981 as two men robbed a safe. One of them confessed. Kamara was said to be the other. He was convicted partly on being picked out in an identification parade, and partly on a prison "confession". David Jessel's report says that both pieces of evidence were flawed and that evidence favourable to Kamara was not given to the court. Jessel also claims to reveal the identify of the real second man and to produce new support for Kamara's alibi. That Kamara's appeal has been turned down is no guarantee that the case will not prove yet another embarrassment for the English legal system.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Life, Death and Sex With Mike and Sue
Radio 4, 6.30pm

A second series of the comedy programme that spoofs inane chat shows, particularly those encountered on daytime television. Robert Duncan and Jan Ravens star as Mike and Sue, deploying cheerfulness in a format that uses a mix of chat and sketches to send up just about everything. The show is determinedly non-politically correct, having a go at everything from career women who want children but are too busy to have intercourse (their husbands leave sperm in the fridge) to the Dutch, whom the show reports as decriminalising murder. The script makes telling points and silly ones with equal aplomb and it can only be a matter of time before some of its spoofs turn up on daytime television as genuine items.

Inside Track: Living Doll
Radio 4, 8.20pm

The second in a five-part series about modern life tells the inside story of the Barbie doll, a phenomenon of the age and the first mass-produced doll to have an adult, female, form. There are said to be more Barbie dolls in the US than there are people, most of them made in a Japanese factory. But the genesis of Barbie was all-American: she is the product of Ruth Handler and her husband Elliot, two of the founders of the Mattel toy company (Barbie is named after their daughter Barbara). Other Mattel executives were against the product, believing that a doll with a female form could be corrupting, while there still many people who regard Barbie as anti-feminist, as much a male icon as a girl's plaything.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

7.00am Kevin Greening **9.00** Simon Mayo **11.30** Radio 1 Roadshow **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jo Whiley **3.00** Mary Anna Hobbs **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session **8.30** Movie Update **8.40** John Peel **10.30** Claire Sturgess **1.00am** Phoenix Live: Dave Pearce **4.00** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** David Allan's Country Club **8.00** Paul Jones **9.00** The Deniece Williams Show **9.30** The What If Show **10.00** Wowtabgroovy **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **1.30pm** The Open. Coverage of the first day's play of the 126th Open Golf Championship at Troon **7.00** News Extra **8.00** David Gower's Cricket Weekly. Includes a look ahead to the fourth Test **9.00** Inside Edge with Rob Bonnet **10.00** News Talk **11.00** News Extra with Valerie Sanderson **12.00** After Hours — Early Call **2.00am** Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **9.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newsday **6.30** Europe **7.15** World Today **7.30** Meridian Books **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Composer of the Month **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Turning a Tune **9.30** Hot New Country **10.05** Business **10.15** Dying Notes **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Sport **11.30** Discovery **12.30pm** The Learning World **12.45** From Our Own Correspondent **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain **1.30** Record News **1.45** Sport **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack **4.05** Sport **4.15** Turning a Tune **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain **6.05** Business **6.15** World Today **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.30** Assignment **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** John Peel **9.00** Newshour **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain **10.30** Meridian Books **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Vintage Chart Show **1.30** Turning a Tune **1.45** Britain **2.30** The Works **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.05** Business **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Alan Mann **9.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Classic Concerto. Bocherini (Cello Concerto No 8 in C major); Mozart (Concerto for Two Pianos in E flat major, K365) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight **7.30** Sonata. Finger (Sonata for Trumpet, Oboe and Bassoon) **8.00** Evening Concert. Haydn (Symphony No 93 in D); Mozart (String Quartet No 17 in B flat, The Hunt); Beethoven (Violin Concerto in D) **10.00** Michael Mappin **2.00am** Classic Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Nick Abbot **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **6.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Richard Porter

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Cornysh (Salve Regina); Brahms (Paganini Variations, Op 35); Bach, arr Stokowski (Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV565); Schumann (Nachtstücke, Op 23); Stravinsky, arr Crabb/Draugsvoll (Tango); Mozart (Clarinet Concerto in A, K622)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Includes Donizetti (String Quartet No 13 in A); Elgar (Dream Children); Ravel (Miroirs)
10.00 Musical Encounters, Live from the Cheltenham Festival with Chris Wines. Includes Peter Maxwell Davies (Ojai Festival Overture); Lambert (Trois Pieces Nègres pour les Touches Blanches); Ravel (Air d'Alcyone); Szymanowski (Kolysanka); Beethoven (Piano Trio in B flat, Op 97, Archduke)
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Beethoven
1.00pm Opera Matinée: L'Incontro Improviso. Haydn's opera to a libretto by Carl Friberth. With William Burden, tenor, Lano Tamar, soprano, Anna Maria Panzarella, soprano, Mireille Delunsch, soprano and the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, under Jonathan Darlington
3.35 Vanessa Latarch. A piano recital. Mendelssohn (Preludes and Fugues Op 35: No 2 in D; No 3 in B minor); Schumann (Arabesque in C, Op 18); Grieg (Piano Sonata in E minor, Op 7) (r)
4.15 Ensemble. The Sorrel Quartet plays Shostakovich (String Quartet No 7); Mozart (String Quartet in C, K465, Dissonance)
5.00 The Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson
5.15 In Tune. A celebration of 75 years of the BBC with live contributions from the pianist Roger Owens and the John S. Davis Singers. Includes Rossini (Three Songs for Female Voices); William Mathias (Lear Songs)
7.30 BBC Philharmonic, under Yan Pascal Tortelier, Craig Ogden, guitar. Bizet (Carmen Suites Nos 1 and 2, excerpts); Rodrigo (Concierto de Aranjuez); Ravel (Rapsodie Espagnole); Falla (The Three-Cornered Hat Suites Nos 1 and 2)
8.50 Role Play. Alex Jennings and Stephen Moore discuss the character of Ibsen's Peer Gynt
9.15 Janacek, Dohnanyi and Martinu. Leslie Newman, flute, Paul Marleyn, cello, and Martin Roscoe, piano. Janacek (Pohadka); Dohnanyi (Passacaglia for Solo Flute); Martinu (Trio, 1944) (r)
10.00 Music Restored: The Earliest Printed Music Ottaviano Petrucci and the Italian Frottole. A concert given by Fretwork and Michael Chance, countertenor, at the Beverley and East Riding Early Music Festival. Includes Jesquin (De Tous Biens Plaine); Bartolomeo Tromboncino (Si e Debile il Filo); Ockeghem (Ut Heremita Solus); Josquin (Nymphes des Bois, Déploration sur la Mort d'Ockeghem); Anon (La Spagna a 5)
10.45 Night Waves. Patrick Wright discusses a new book by the historian Jeffrey Richards on film and British national identity
11.30 Composers of the Week: Early Spanish Music, with Catherine Bott. Includes music by Triana, Escobar, Medina and Penalosa (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather introduces the second part of Stacey Kent's concert with the Jim Tomlinson Quintet
1.00 Through the Night, with David Comet. Includse 1.00 Choral Evensong (r) 2.00 Pieces by Martinu for mixed ensembles 3.30 Montreal Symphony Orchestra, under Charles Dutoit. With Garrick Ohlsson, piano. John Adams (Short Ride ain a Fast Machine); Dvořák (Piano Concerto in G minor); Prokofiev (Symphony No 5)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, includes Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze. Michael Beurk chairs a discussion with David Cook, Janet Daley, Michael Mansfield, QC, and Dr David Starkey
10.00 News; The Female Ghost (FM): The Demon Lover, by Elizebeth Bowen With Maggie Steed, Jenny Howe and Jonathan Keeble (4/4)
10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. News from BBC reporters around the world
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm The Heritage Quiz. Sue MacGregor invites Christopher Cook, Philippa Gregory, Roisin MacAuley and Martin Wainwright to test their knowledge of Britain's cultural heritage **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Thursday Afternoon Play: A Fine and Private Place, by Peter Moffat George dedicated his life to his lover, a celebrated artist. But when he dies the glowing obituaries make no mention of George's role
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan and guests
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen grew up in Canterbury where he first read Orwell and became interested in the theatre Now based in Sheffield he uses both places to trace his cultural roots
4.45 Short Story — The French Collection: Morning Glories, by Colette. Translated by Matthew Ward and read by Greta Scacchi
5.00 PM, with Charlie Lee-Potter and Jon Sopel **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Life, Death and Sex with Mike and Sue. See Choice
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Lifestory. Humphrey Carpenter presents a portrait of the tenor Peter Pears, a connoisseur, gourmet, bon viveur and partner of 40 years to the composer, Benjamin Britten
8.00 Fresh Air. The winners of the Radio 4 feature-making competition for 11 to 15-year-olds. This week: Adam Chehata talks about living with Tourette's syndrome (2/5)
8.20 Inside Track: Living Doll. See Choice
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Frederick Dove with the programme made fro, and by, people with disabilities
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Captain Corelli's Mandolin, by Louis de Bernieres. Abridged by Alison Joseph and read by Robert Powell (9/15)
11.00 The Mark of Zorro. An epic adventure written by by S.J. Ashford. With Mark Arden, Louise Lombard and Glyn Houston (3/5)
11.30 Ad Lib (FM). Robert Robinson talks to members of the Royal Ballet Company about the pressures of performing (4/6) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW). A roundup of the day
12.00 News includes **12.28am** approx Weather 's events in Westminster
12.30 The Late Book: The White Boy Shuffle, by Paul Beatty. Read by Ray Shell (4/10)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1, FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2,** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3,** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4,** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE,** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE,** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM,** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO,** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO,** MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

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Being gentle is no more than horse sense

REVIEW

Peter Barnard

There are enough people crowding the television landscape on an average night to ensure that, normally, animals can be left to take their chances, which is just as well because I am not disposed to give animals disproportionate amounts of publicity. They show little gratitude, for one thing, and are as likely to make a bed out of *The Times* as read it.

Yet there is something about horses, is there not? You never see an ugly one, you never see one dragging about a field looking all downcast and sloppy. A horse has brilliant posture, without ever going to ballet school.

So QED (BBC1) had me, more than half sold just by putting *Monty Roberts — A Real Horse Whisperer* into the schedules and I was especially anxious to see this film because I had missed an earlier *QED* involving Roberts. That was two years ago and was about his unique method of taming horses.

Roberts is a Californian horse rancher who developed a method of breaking horses that involved no cruelty. Instead, Roberts spoke to the wild horses, gently easing himself into their confidence. It works. Last night's programme took things a step further and filmed Roberts's first attempt to tame a mustang, the wildest of the wild, by this method.

It took him three days without sleep, tracking the animal across the California high desert, coming ever closer, talking to it, moving in, backing off. He succeeded of course, as he knew he would, (Roberts may be a mite too sure of himself for some tastes) but in between learning something about horses one learnt something more important about people.

Roberts and his wife have three children and they have fostered more than 40 others with delinquent tendencies. Roberts succeeded with the foster children by applying the same principles he uses with horses, firm but kind methods, in contrast to the abuse many of them had encountered from their natural parents.

There is a further, more remarkable, behavioural link between the human beings and the horses. Roberts allows members of the public to watch him gently break in horses in the circular ring at his ranch. At some of the sessions he noticed that several people, usually women, fainted.

By questioning them later, it was discovered that the women had been overcome by seeing animals treated so gently in contrast to the cruelty they associated with horse breaking. Amazingly, more than three quarters of those who fainted had been abused as children.

We must make of that what we will, a conclusion that applies to **Reputations: Simon Wiesenthal — The Man who Hunted Nazis** (BBC2). Wiesenthal's name rarely appears without having the word controversial appended but any Jew will tell you that you do not have to be Wiesenthal to be controversial, you only have to be Jewish.

Nothing in this programme would alter the unremarkable view that Wiesenthal was a remarkable and dedicated man. His lifelong search for war criminals (he is 88 now and still at it) sometimes involved courting publicity, but how else was he to raise the money? There are, however, two matters which have created particular concern.

One was the capture of Adolf Eichmann, which did most to make Wiesenthal an international hero. A letter from Wiesenthal told the relevant authorities where Eichmann was (in Buenos Aires), though there remains the question of whether Israel already knew. Israel was only too pleased to let Wiesenthal take some credit, for the kidnapping of Eichmann by the Israeli Mossad was illegal.

But Wiesenthal's opponents made more hay out of the Kurt Waldheim affair, when the former United Nations Secretary-General stood for the presidency of Austria. The World Jewish Congress (WJC) pursued Waldheim for his Nazi links (he was in the wartime German Army) but Wiesenthal held that the evidence against Waldheim was insufficient.

Even now, bitterness about the split persists and WJC backers in the programme made no great effort to hide their contempt. One, Elan Steinberg, said: "The Simon Wiesenthal that he sought to portray is not the Simon Wiesenthal that corresponds with reality."

Most people will surely think that Wiesenthal is a wholly remarkable man, whose connection with the concentration camps did not end when he was liberated from one. His chief offence seems to be the possession of a hefty ego, but as Hella Pick, his biographer, said: "He's very egocentric but only a person with an ego as big as his could have done what he has achieved."

For light relief we turn to the Paignton and Dartmouth Steam Railway, which you may think could get through a week without attracting the sort of publicity afforded to Railtrack or the London Underground. Some hopes. The P and D was featured last night in **One Foot in the Past** (BBC2), a heritage series presented by Kirsty Wark which manages to avoid being obsessed with crumbling buildings (though there was one of those, too).

The trouble in Torbay is that one bit of heritage has run slap into another. The railway, which is privately owned, wants to convert the Paignton Picture House, adjacent to the railway station, for use as a booking hall. The Picture House, oldest of its kind in Europe, is already owned by the railway and runs at a loss. So what to do, when one piece of history seeks to expand at the expense of another? Answers on a seaside postcard, but not to me.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (90098)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (95456)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (3388630)
9.20 Ready, Steady, Cook with Fern Britton (1719036)
9.50 Kilroy (T) (5481104)
10.30 Who'll Do the Pudding? (30456)
11.00 News (T) (7972982)
11.05 Due South Ray finds an abandoned baby (r) (T) (6005974)
11.50 Good Neighbours (2999765)
12.00 News (T) (8450475)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (6137123)
12.35 Neighbours (T) (8885982)
1.00 News (T) and weather (98543)
1.30 Regional News (42460253)
1.40 Columbo: Old Fashioned Murder A woman plots to murder her brother. Starring Peter Falk, with Joyce Van Patten, Celeste Holm and Tim O'Connor **2.55** Private Places (1655727)
3.00 International Golf: The Open The first-round action continues (5291)
4.00 Popeye (r) (7838746) **4.10** Dinobabies (r) (T) (4247833) **4.35** Cartoon Critters (T) (8932272)
5.00 Newsround (T) (1078340) **5.10** The Biz (r) (T) (4666253)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (367920)
6.00 News (T) and weather (475)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (727)
7.00 Watchdog: Value for Money Petfood; lost property auctions; Nike Town (T) (3475)
7.30 EastEnders Polly and Tony's relationship is put under further strain. Robbie has an unexpected visitor (T) (611)
8.00 Airport Pre-Christmas at Heathrow (T) (2123)
8.30 Gotcha (1630)
9.00 News (T) regional news and weather (5122)
9.30 One Foot in the Grave Victor tempts fate by agreeing to look after neighbours Patrick and Pippa's house (r) (T) (61814)
10.00 Smith and Jones Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones present a comic compendium of sketches and new characters (T) (55765)
10.30 The Last Governor After talks with China fail, the pressure increases on Chris Patten as his democratic reforms are debated in the Legislative Council. Baroness Thatcher is among the interviewees (T) (1728104)
11.35 U2: A Year in Pop Jo Whiley presents a profile of the chart-topping Irish band, as their ambitious, 14-month PopMart tour reaches Europe. The group are shown recording their latest album and their stage show can be seen in a special live broadcast tomorrow (389630)
12.25am Naked Tango (1990) FILM Mathilda May plays a judge's bride in 1920s Buenos Aires who sets out to escape a life of domestic drudgery and gets drawn into prostitution. With Vincent D'Onofrio, Esai Morales and Fernando Rey. Directed by Leonard Schrader (2353128)
1.55 Weather (2388692)

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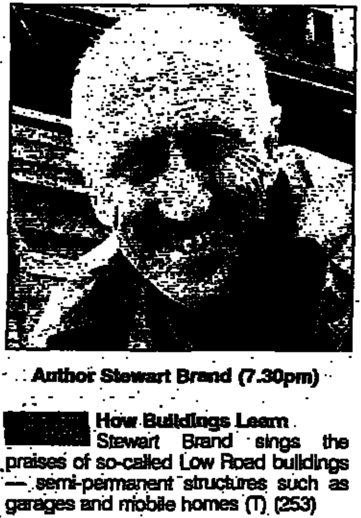
BBC2

6.00am Open University: Harvesting the Sun (7962104) **6.25** Problems with Ions (7941611) **6.50** Plants: Problems with Water (6172765) **7.15** See Hear Breakfast News (T) (6827920) **7.30** The Moomins Valley (7953678) **7.55** Bright Sparks (r) (6887630) **8.20** Charlie Chalk (6565611) **8.35** The Record (2487340) **9.00** Cartoon (5697524) **9.10** The Phil Silvers Show (1797814)
9.35 Great Mysteries and Myths of the 20th Century The death of General Patton (2475456) **10.00** Teletubbies (80036)
10.30 International Golf: The Open Day one of the 126th Championship at Royal Troon (23307)
12.30pm Working Lunch (72920)
1.00 International Golf: The Open More from the opening 18 holes at the Royal Troon Golf Club in Ayrshire (61901)
3.00 News; Regional News (T) (1912814)
3.05 Westminster with Nick Ross (6877678)
3.55 News; Regional News (T) (2351104)
4.00 International Golf: The Open Further live coverage as the first round draws to a close (6200730)

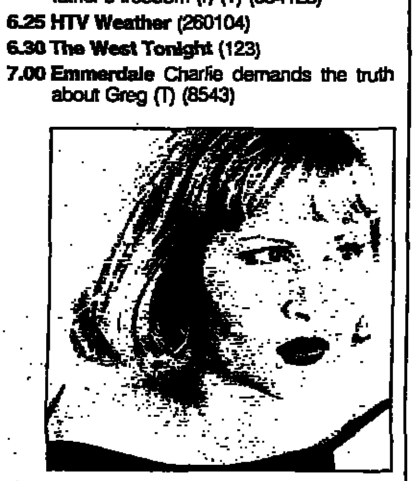


Author Stewart Brand (7.30pm)

7.30 How Buildings Learn Stewart Brand sings the praises of so-called Low Road buildings — semi-permanent structures such as garages and mobile homes (T) (253)
8.00 Wild Harvest with Nick Nairn The chef heads for the Shetland Islands for deep-sea fishing and hunts an Arctic hare before whipping up a caramel mousse (T) (2415) **WALES: 8.00** And Now, Over to Our Friends in Wales (2415)
8.30 Tracks How a fifth-century Anglo Saxon peasant would have travelled without a map; the wonders of seaweed; the sights and sounds of the Wye; the peaks of Glencoe (T) (9272)
9.00 International Golf: The Open Steve Rider reports on day one at the Royal Troon Club in Ayrshire (766036)
9.40 This Life The opening night of the cafe leaves Egg feeling decidedly deflated; Ferdy indulges in a one-night stand; Kira, Miles and Kelly make big plans (T) (753098)
10.20 The X Philes Fans of sci-fi series *The X Files* discuss their obsession (148104)
10.28 Talking Tate (422678)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (612562)
11.15 The Woman in Twelve (947920)
11.55 Holiday Weather (477901)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (65166) **12.30am** Learning Zone: Open University: Social Work in the Inner City (19499) **1.00** Powers of the President (57895) **2.00** Summer Nights: Star Gazing Essentials (63019) **4.00** Languages: Greek Language and People/French Experience. Know How (45383) **5.00** Business and Work (63055)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4224956)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (r) (T) (1703475)
9.55 Judge Judy (T) (4416104) **10.20** News (T) (8201901) **10.25** Regional News (T) (8200272)
10.30am Hart to Hart Returns (1993) FILM with Robert Wagner, Stefanie Powers and David Rasche. Feature length adventure for the husband and wife detective team (94993524)
12.20pm Regional News (8456659)
12.30 ITN News (T) (8811307)
12.55 Shortland Street (8896098)
1.25 Home and Away (T) (37591543) **1.50** It's a Vet's Life (59483746) **2.20** Shattered Promises (5786814) **3.20** News (T) (1929104) **3.25** Regional News (T) (1928475)
3.30 Potamus Park (r) (4235949) **3.40** Wizadora (r) (1519272) **3.50** Rupert (6104543) **4.15** Transylvania Pet Shop (T) (4231272) **4.40** Reboot (8457104)
5.10 A Country Practice (1639307)
5.40 ITN News (T) (517098)
6.00 Home and Away Will Liam sacrifice his father's freedom (r) (T) (384123)
6.25 HTV Weather (260104)
6.30 The West Tonight (123)
7.00 Emmerdale Charlie demands the truth about Greg (T) (8543)



Vogue model Sara Harrison (7.30pm)

7.30 3-D Is designer fashion for fat people a long-term reality? How manufacturers could make cars safer for pedestrians. With Julia Somerville (307)
8.00 The Bill A teenage catfight over an older man has serious implications (T) (7291)
8.30 Undercover Customs: Operation Green Ice Real-life smuggling stories: reconstructions and surveillance footage. A billion-dollar drugs bust (T) (3098)
9.00 Taggart: Prayer for the Dead With Jardine and Reid under pressure to find the killer of Anna Palaski, a link is established with another murder (r) (T) (5920)
10.00 News at Ten (T) (40833)
10.30 Regional News (T) (579720)
10.40 The West This Week (449543)
11.30 Frieze Frame (951388)
11.45 Short Story Cinema (798746)
12.10am The Wacky Weekly World News (3430586)
12.35 The LADS (5923673)
1.10 Funny Business (2219234)
1.40 Planet Rock Profiles (4290692)
2.10 Late and Loud (8305963)
3.05 3-D (66498708)
3.35 The Good Sex Guide Late (5293760)
4.35 The Time, the Place (22855215)
5.00 Garden Calendar (60296)
5.30 News (53321)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
10.30am Film: Jonathan: The Boy Nobody Wanted (94993524)
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (8896098)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1639307)
6.25 Central News (369814)
10.40 Film: Once in a Lifetime (11002369)
12.25am Jody Horowitz Reports (6225050)
12.40 Funny Business (8268499)
1.15 Rockmania (789895)
2.15 Ed's Night Party (9289673)
2.40 The Loop (2958321)
3.05 Late and Loud (6974654)
4.00 Central Jobfinder '97 (2365893)
5.20 Asian Eye (9351128)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
10.30am Film: Jonathan — The Boy Nobody Wanted (94993524)
12.55pm Home and Away (7119974)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (81804730)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1639307)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (84765)
10.30 Westcountry News (367712)
10.45 Overdrive (992122)
11.15 Paul Weller: Live (323901)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
10.30am Film: Eight Is Enough: Reunion (94993524)
5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (1639307)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (543)
6.30-7.00 Grass Roots (123)
10.30 Meridian News and Weather (367712)
10.45 Film: In the Line of Duty: The Twilight Murders (11584433)
5.00 Freescreen (60296)

ANGLIA

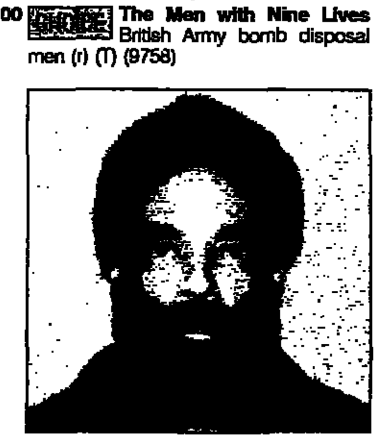
As HTV West except:
10.30 Film: Eight Is Enough: Reunion (94993524)
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (8896098)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1639307)
6.23 Anglia Weather (261833)
6.25 Anglia News (369814)
6.55-7.00 What's On (215814)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (419104)
10.40 The Magic and Mystery Show (521475)
11.10 Waterlines (468833)
11.40 New York News (304291)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (16036) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (11494) **9.00 Bewitched** (27982) **9.30 Film: That Hamilton Woman** (40379982) **11.55 Une Artiste** (6123920) **12.00 House to House** (47746) **12.30pm Ricki Lake** (74388) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (25075543) **1.15 Wil Cwac Cwac** (25070098) **1.30 Tracks of Glory** (45609949) **3.15 On Land, at Sea and in the Air** (6352098) **3.30 Here's One I Made Earlier** (901) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (956) **4.30 Absolutely Animals** (920) **5.00 5 Pump** (8156479) **5.20 Gogs** (7637524) **5.30 Countdown** (272) **6.00 Newyddion** (975524) **6.05 Heno** (362901) **6.35 Jac yn y Bocs** (277494) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (472272) **7.25 Sgrin Ti Syniad?** (418036) **8.00 Eden** (5833) **8.30 Newyddion** (4340) **9.00 The Jewel in the Crown** (3562) **10.00 Tour De France** (48475) **10.30 Film: Gas, Food, Lodging** (57146765) **12.25am The Legend of George Rex** (6150012)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (16036) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (11494) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (T) (27982)
9.30 That Hamilton Woman (1941, b/w) FILM Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh. A propaganda drama parallelling the war against Hitler with Nelson's battles with Napoleon. Alexander Korda directs (40379982)
11.55 Une Artiste Animation (6123920) **12.00** House to House (47746) **12.30pm** Blue Wilderness: The Dolphin Children (r) (T) (74388) **1.00** Moving People (r) (T) (81253) **1.30** Jeu de Coudes. Animation (29030291)
1.35 The Proud Rebel (1958) FILM A western drama starring Alan Ladd and Olivia de Havilland, directed by Michael Curtiz (65825104)
3.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (T) (901) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (956) **4.30** Countdown (T) (8926611) **4.55** Ricki Lake (T) (2886494) **5.30** Pet Rescue (r) (T) (272)
6.00 Tour De France On a rest day — a review of the race so far (185)
6.30 Hollyoaks Teen soap (T) (765)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (416543)
7.50 York Early Music Festival Emma Kirby and Anthony Rooley perform works by John Dowland (171291)
8.00 The Men with Nine Lives British Army bomb disposal men (r) (T) (9758)



Johnny Kamara — murderer? (9pm)

9.00 Trial and Error David Jessel investigates the case of Johnny Kamara (T) (3562)
10.00 Whose Line is it Anyway? Improvised comedy (T) (928475)
10.35 Northern Exposure Alaska-set off-beat comedy series (T) (172369)
11.30 Weekly Planet A discussion on the prospects for a negotiated peace in Northern Ireland (41456)
1.00am —4.05 Midnight Underground: Teenage Rampage A gang of boys in south-east London (8530673)
1.10 Two or Three Things I Know But Nothing for Sure A journey from a turbulent childhood in the American south to a tranquil life in Northern California (8550437)
1.25 Remember Me A treatise on death (4489692) **1.45** Laws of Nature. A fresh perspective on landscape (52234) **2.15** Collapse. An attempt electronically to resuscitate the dead language of love (3145334) **2.20** Chronos Fragmented The use of video as a creative memory (8654215) **3.25** The Left Hand Should Know (3513673)
4.05 Memento Ved Mehta talks to Joan Bakewell (r) (T) (95984654) **4.35** Geographical Eye (59241147) **4.55** Tour De France (r) (4793470) **5.30** Backdate (r) (T) (51963)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02** and **7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (9367456)
7.30 Havakazoo (7193543) **8.00** The Enid Blyton Adventure Series (7083340) **8.30** WideWorld (7082611)
9.00 Espresso Consumer magazine with Edwina Currie (3783901) **10.00** Exclusive! (r) (5762611) **10.30** Instant Gardens (T) (7002475)
11.00 Leeza (6644291) **11.50** Double Espresso (19402949) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (7093727) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (T) (4667185)
1.00 5 News Update (T) (95568681) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (8600272) **2.00** 5's Company (6680727)
3.30 Alvarez Kelly (1966) FILM Western with William Holden, Richard Widmark and Janice Rule. A cattle drover is kidnapped by a ruthless band of Confederates during the American Civil War. Directed by Edward Dmytryk (9361272)
5.30 100 Per Cent The game show without a host (7430765)
6.00 Move on Up Fast-moving game show (T) (7437678)
6.30 Family Affairs Jack is panicked over Chris and Annie's return and Duncan gets a taste of his own medicine (T) (7411630)
7.00 Exclusive! Entertainment news, featuring stories on music, film, television and fashion plus all the latest gossip. With Julia Bradbury (6787369)
7.30 Close Encounters A look at how oil platforms provide a home for a host of uninvited guests (T) (7417814)

Motoring Mariella Frostrup (8.00pm)

8.00 The Car Show Motoring magazine presented by Mariella Frostrup and Tristram Payne (6796017)
8.30 5 News (T) (6775524)
9.00 Vanishing Act (1986) FILM with Mike Farrell, Margot Kidder and Elliott Gould. Thriller about a newlywed husband whose wife mysteriously disappears while on honeymoon. Directed by David Greene (60572920)
10.50 Not the Jack Docherty Show Chat and comedy (1224388)
11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H (8805843)
12.35am Live and Dangerous Sports magazine. Includes football action from both North and Latin America (28748031)
4.40 The Streets of San Francisco (6027147)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (3771166)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (433104) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (60369) **10.00** Another World (52765) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (32901) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (16659) **1.00pm** Geraldo (24307) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (21307) **3.00** Jenny Jones (24633) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (66740) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (5320) **6.00** The Live 6 Show (3982) **6.30** Married — with Children (7582) **7.00** The Simpsons (8949) **7.30** M*A*S*H (9746) **8.00** Third Rock from the Sun (4369) **8.30** The Nanny (8104) **9.00** Seinfeld (86104) **9.30** Mad About You ([illegible]988) **10.00** Chicago Hope (46543) **[illegible]** Star Trek: The Next Generation (63494) **12.00** Late Show with Letterman (17234) **1.00am** Hit Mix (8831166)

SKY 2

7.00pm Superboy (7800253) **7.30** Superboy (5419340) **8.00** Unsolved Mysteries (2083659) **9.00** Highlander (2096123) **10.00** Tek War (2066982) **11.00** Heat of the Night (8918659) **12.00** Hit Mix (8199128)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Guarding Tess (1995) (10433) **8.00 Ladybug, Ladybug** (1963) (82630) **9.30 Marriage on the Rocks** (1965) (11140) **11.30 Adolf Hitler: My Part in His Downfall** (1972) (32765) **1.30pm Phase IV** (1973) (52123) **3.00 Charro!** (1969) (38920) **5.00 Seasons of the Heart** (1993) (75543) **7.00 Guarding Tess** (1995) (59578) **9.00 The Shawshank Redemption** (1994) (8530765) **11.25 Seduced and Betrayed** (1995) (259833) **1.00am E[illegible] Cowgirls Get the Blues** (1994) ([illegible]328) **2.40 First to Fight** (1967) (686963) **4.20 Adolf Hitler: My Part in His Downfall** (1972) (838550)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Jitterbugs (1943) (6569369) **7.15 Lancer Spy** (1937) (2913036) **8.35 Rodgers and Hammerstein: The Sound of Movies** (1995) (51487272) **10.15 This Is My Affair** (1937) (34495456) **12.00 Tension at Table Rock** (1956) (93524) **2.00pm To Be or Not to Be** (1942) (68765) **4.00 Three Ninjas Kick Back** (1994) (3494) **6.00 Young Indiana Jones and the Hollywood Follies** (1995) (24735630) **7.40 US Top 10** (287291) **8.00 Babe** (1995) (30630) **9.30 The Movie Show** (48758) **10.00 Muriel's Wedding** (1994) (678291) **11.50 Emmanuelle V** (1986) (779291) **1.10am Deal of the Century** (1983) (493234) **2.55 Dracula Has Risen from the Grave** (1968) (940673) **4.30 Magic Adventure** (1973) (14437)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Thunder Bay (1953) (2402340) **8.00 Children of a Lesser God** (1986) (2414185) **10.00 Casualties of War** (1989) (4845389) **12.00 Pet Sematary** (1989) (5170050) **1.45am The Pope of Greenwich Village** (1984) (9540031) **3.45-5.15 The First Travelling Saleslady** (1956) (6142294)

TNT

9.00pm Four Eyes and Six Guns (1992) (87828630) **11.00 Desperate Trail** (1994) (99630494) **12.35am Treasure of the Sierra Madre** (1948) (99100645) **2.45 Tribute to a Bad Man** (1956) (97005499)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (75630) **7.30** Wrestling (34949) **8.30** Racing News (95920) **9.00** Sports Centre (86272) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (22562) **10.00** Full Throttle (35524) **10.30** European Tour Magazine (82456) **11.00** Cricket: Kent v Leicestershire — Live (82920) **1.00pm** Second Innings (74901) **1.30** Cricket — Live (1266456) **6.00** Sports Centre (5727) **6.30** Powerboat and Jetski World (7307) **7.00** Formula Three (65456) **8.00** World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (98920) **10.00** Sports Centre (49415) **10.30** Big Shots (70017) **11.30** Tight Lines (89678) **12.30am** Sports Centre (34055) **1.00** Trans World Sport (89499) **2.00-2.30** Sports Centre (89003)

SKY SPORTS 2

8.00pm Tight Lines (8108659) **9.00** Trans World Sport (8111123) **10.00** Gaelic Games (8181982) **11.00** Powerboat and Jetski World (8261494) **11.30-1.00am** Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (5793814)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Big Shots (10190524) **1.00pm** Football: Irish Tournament (19836948) **2.30** Futbol Mundial (19335765) **3.00** Full Throttle (52805456) **3.30** Equestrianism: Spruce Meadows (73431017) **4.30** Futbol Mundial (19315901) **5.00** Wrestling (52829036) **6.00** Inside the PGA Tour (19336494) **6.30** Golf: FA Premier League Classic (45378833) **8.00** Golf: LPGA Jamie Farr Kroger Classic (87827901) **9.00-11.30** Golf: Deposit Guaranty Golf Classic — Live (13333949)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (29017) **8.30** Wheelies Magazine (97388) **9.00** Tour De France (93611) **10.00** Athletics: Nice IAAF Grand Prix (85017) **11.00** Rowing: World Cup (65253) **12.00** Powerman (91104) **12.30pm** Freeride Magazine (28746) **1.00** Mountain Biking: Downhill World Cup (76369) **1.30** Tour De France (51307) **3.30** Athletics: Nice IAAF Grand Prix (50562) **4.30** Tennis: Mercedes Cup (99307) **6.00** Strongman (36765) **7.00** Football: IFK Gothenburg v Liverpool — Live (80562) **9.00** Boxing: John John Molina v Elias Quiroz (64276) **10.00** Fitness (52433) **11.00** Sailing (44611) **11.30-12.30am** Fencing (74746)

UK GOLD

7.00am Animal Magic (6425833) **7.35** Neighbours (5928611) **8.00** Crossroads (6277681) **8.25** EastEnders (7452543) **9.00** The Bill (4200340) **9.30** Shelley (8744253) **10.00** Tellystack (1973659) **10.30** The Sullivans (4206524) **11.00** Bergerac (49038920) **12.05pm** Crossroads (61555475) **12.30** Neighbours (8755369) **1.00** EastEnders (5496104) **1.35** No Place Like Home (5271369) **2.15** The Liver Birds (2885920) **2.50** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4568497) **3.30** The Bill (9878340) **4.00** Boon (1612727) **5.00** Casualty (56768475) **6.05** EastEnders (8063272) **6.40** Sykes (7941562) **7.20** Dr Who: The Android Invasion (5074340) **7.50** George and Mildred (4241807) **8.20** Hi-De-Hi (8638475) **9.00** The Bill (1601611) **9.30** Chancer (28509122) **10.35** Naked Video (2091524) **11.15** Live at Jongleurs (1739663) **11.45** Gold Goes Pop (1124611) **12.30am** It's a Knockout (1429296) **1.20** Big Deal (4922875) **2.15** Shopping (28759499)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (1156727) **7.00** Coronation St (5196551) **7.30** Families (7233369) **8.00** Surprise! Surprise! (4863185) **9.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (5600765) **10.00** Gentle Touch (5338730) **11.00** London's Burning (1938974) **12.00** Coronation St (4910746) **12.30pm** Families (8062807) **1.00** Two's Company (1633122) **1.30** The Beautiful Home Show (9412348) **2.00** Surprise! Surprise! (9892494) **3.00** Gentle Touch (5820746) **4.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (5609253) **5.00** London's Burning (1504475) **6.00** Families (6485291) **6.30** Coronation St (6476543) **7.00** Gentle Touch (1360098) **8.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (1379746) **9.00** Coronation St (5638765) **9.30** The Wheeltappers and Shunters Social Club (2462663) **10.00-11.00** London's Burning (1369369)

Animal magic in *Babe* (The Movie Channel, 8.00pm)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo's Circus (82766) **6.30** Faerie Tale Theatre (16494) **7.30** Little Mermaid (7145036) **7.55** Timon and Pumbaa (6005562) **8.10** Goof Troop (4485307) **9.00** Tale Spin (6766253) **9.25** Aladdin (6804036) **10.15** Mighty Ducks (3903307) **11.00** Boy Meets World (5142272) **11.25** Wonder Years (1308776) **11.50** Timon and Pumbaa (4411543) **12.05pm** Bonkers (1959611) **12.30** Microscopic Milton (38559562) **12.35** Big Garage (35893901) **12.50** Sing Me a Story (8058601) **1.15** Amazing Animals (53351765) **1.40** Wonderland (21730982) **2.05** Small Stories (85816123) **2.10** Lamb Chop (32566746) **2.40** Care Bears (7926630) **3.00** Little Mermaid (4880901) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (6289814) **3.40** Tale Spin (6381307) **4.30** Chooseday (3543) **5.00** Aladdin (4510543) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (5802727) **5.35** Mighty Ducks (235962) **6.00** Flash Forward (4036) **6.30** Boy Meets World (5388) **7.00** Brotherly Love (2185) **7.30 FILM: Who Framed Roger Rabbit** (95968543) **9.05** Dave's World (480272) **9.30-10.00** Golden Girls (79494)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (5863901) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (6001920) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (6992611) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (6911746) **8.00** Beetleborgs (8705185) **8.30** Crocadoo (8704456) **9.00** Rimba's Island (6549291) **9.20** Magic Box (9807494) **9.45** Dudley the Dragon (2326340) **10.05** Rimba's Island (7542727) **10.25** Magic Box (6402456) **11.00** Jin Jin (6823814) **11.30** Pinocchio (6824543) **12.00** Inspector Gadget (8708272) **12.30pm** VR Troopers (18752164) **12.50** Power Rangers Zeo (26271140) **1.10** Beetleborgs (12264814) **1.30** Eek! (8747901) **2.00** Life with Louie (1400217) **2.30** Crocadoo (5438475) **3.00** Gadget Boy (2955302) **3.30** Eek! (5433920) **4.00** Life with Louie (5429727) **4.30** Power Rangers Zeo (5418611) **5.00** Beetleborgs (3400497) **5.30** Spiderman (5432291) **6.00** X Men (5439104) **6.30-7.00** Goosebumps

TCC

6.00am Iznogoud (35611) **6.30** Dangermouse (49340) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (87098) **7.30** Where's Wally (99833) **8.00** Batman (32475) **8.30** Art Attack (95340) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (68388) **10.00** Gravedale High (63920) **10.30** Flash Gordon (11882) **11.00** Creepy Crawlers (20348) **11.30** Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (70807) **12.00** Gravedale High (35562) **12.30pm** Stunt Dawgs (62104) **1.00** Batman (86369) **1.30** Dangermouse (61475) **2.00** Creepy Crawlers (4543) **2.30** Flash Gordon (6253) **3.00** Sonic (3678) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (8098) **4.00** Dennis the Menace (2843) **4.30-5.00** Art Attack (6017)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**. Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am Dr Seuss (20765) **6.30** Wil Quack Quack etc (42814) **7.00** Babar (73272) **7.30** Cryptkeeper (92307) **8.00** Jumanji (94291) **8.30** Hey Arnold! (93562) **9.00** Rugrats (84814) **9.30** Rugrats (20104) **10.00** Doug (66494) **10.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (80098) **11.00** Rocko (65104) **11.30** Ren and Stimpy (66833) **12.00** Pete and Pete (99938) **12.30pm** Clarissa (24920) **1.00** Alex Mack (72543) **1.30** Round the Twist (23291) **2.00** Bailey Kipper (3659) **2.30** Littlest Pet Shop (3340) **3.00** Stickin' Around (5494) **3.30** Bruno the Kid (5186) **4.00** Hey Arnold! (7920) **4.30** Rugrats (3104) **5.00** Sister Sister (7611) **5.30** Sister Sister (4456) **6.00** Moesha (1369) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (5949)

TROUBLE

12.00 Byker Grove (4215272) **12.30pm** Ready or Not (8773765) **1.00** Madison (9470123) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (8772036) **2.00** Swan's Crossing (2773727) **2.30** No Naked Flames (9891291) **3.00** Byker Grove (2785562) **3.30** Hangtime (9803036) **4.00** California Dreams (9882543) **4.30** Saved by the Bell (9888727) **5.00** Sweet Valley High (2797307) **5.30** Ready or Not (9802307) **6.00** Hangtime (9892920) **6.30** Madison (9883272) **7.00** Saved by the Bell (2777543) **7.30-8.00** California Dreams (9889456)

BRAVO

8.00pm Twilight Zone (2786291) **8.30** Monsters (2772098) **9.00** LA Heat (6310833) **10.00** Tour of Duty (6313920) **11.00 FILM: The Fiend** (7732017) **1.00am** LA Heat (4218128) **2.00** Tour of Duty (5663505) **3.00 FILM: Adventures of Barry McKenzie** (8868925) **5.00** Twilight Zone (6832876) **5.30** Monsters (1987012)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne (7475) **7.30** Family Ties (4833) **8.00** E UK (6123) **8.30** Wings (5630) **9.00** Cheers (45340) **9.30** Cybill (11456) **10.00** Frasier (49497) **10.30** Garry Shandling (81727) **11.00** We Know Where You Live (57185) **11.30** Vacant Lot (62678) **12.00** Soap (18296) **12.30am** Laverne and Shirley (34037) **1.00** Cheers (51873) **1.30** Cybill (90050) **2.00** E UK (16175) **2.30** We Know Where You Live (17760) **3.00** Frasier (71437) **3.30-4.00** Wings (59352)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1.00am Twilight Zone (8476234) **1.30** One Step Beyond (2377988) **2.00** Friday 13th (9449925) **3.00** Dark Shadows (8433050)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am The Joy of Painting (4208982) **9.30** Garden Calendar (8775123) **10.00** Garden Club (1964901) **10.30** Craftwise (4237494) **11.00** Room for Improvement (1629017) **11.30** Sweet Things (1620746) **12.00** Julia Child (4226746) **12.30pm** Hometime (8746611) **1.00** This Old House (9450369) **1.30** New Yankee Workshop (8745982) **2.00** Tool Box (2779901) **2.30** Driving Passions (9804765) **3.00** Driving Passions (2799036) **3.30** Roadrunner (9876982)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Dangerzone (9895017) **4.30** Ambulance! (9884901) **5.00** Connections 2 (2760253) **5.30** Jurassica (9875253) **6.00** Wild Things (9805494) **6.30** Killer Jellyfish (9896746) **7.00** Invention (2780017) **7.30** Time Travellers (9885630) **8.00** Science Frontiers (6303543) **9.00** Flightline (1609253) **9.30** Ultimate Thrill Rides (8786475) **10.00** New Detectives (6326494) **11.00** Professionals (9460746) **12.00** State of Alert (1999857) **12.30am** Ambulance! (9176505) **1.00** Time Travellers (4265878) **1.30-2.00** Connections 2 (7792499)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Life and Times of Mountbatten (9260765) **5.00** Driving Passion (6743814) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (9745659) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Marilyn Monroe (8182611)

CHALLENGE TV

Win with **Prize Time** twice an hour
5.05pm Cross Wits (7670104) **5.50** Family Fortunes (243901) **6.30** Catchphrase (133611) **7.05** Winner Takes All (217307) **7.40** Give Us A Clue (133122) **8.20** All Clued Up (153920) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (494475) **9.35** Sale of the Century (389104) **10.10** Treasure Hunt (846272) **11.20** Studs (346272) **12.00** Winner Takes All (89708) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (30147) **1.30** Sweet Justice (33012) **2.30** African Skies (66050) **3.00** My Two Dads (18091) **3.30** Big Brother Jake (57302) **4.00** The Fall Guy (83505) **5.00** Shopping (79741)

UK LIVING

7.00am Tiny Living (36276543) **9.05** A Woman Called Smith (4321104) **9.15** Gordon Elliott (3641369) **10.05** Jerry Springer (3611833) **11.00** Young and Restless (3986388) **11.50** Brookside (8542494) **12.25pm** Why Me? (70180104) **12.55** Tempestt (4640036) **1.40** Rolonda (2153253) **2.30** Agony (5618475) **3.00** Live at Three (90102456) **4.05** Jerry Springer (6485543) **5.05** Lingo (57364562) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (5612291) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (7343340) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (2459949) **7.05** Hearts Afire (7603388) **7.35** Brookside (1270814) **8.05** Rolonda (8521611) **9.00 FILM: Passions** (2411098) **11.00-12.00** Sex Files (9239982)

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** ZEE Presents **8.00** Gaane Anjaane **8.25** Ek Nazar **8.30** Business **9.00** Janm Daata **9.30** Vijlina Chamke Motira **10.00** Ajnabi **11.00** Aashana **11.30** Baneg Apni Baat **12.00** Dastaan **12.30pm** Raahat **1.00** FILM **4.00** ZEE Zone **4.05** ZEE Top 10 **5.00** Zone Time **5.25** Dada Dadi Ki Kahani **6.00** Sorry Meri Lorry **6.25** Ek Nazar **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Your Zindagi **7.30** Cinemagic **8.00** News **8.35** Andaz **9.05** Jaal **9.30** Hasretain **10.00** ZEE Presents **10.30** Yaadon Ki Baraat **11.00** Mano Ya Na Mano **11.30** Antakshari

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews and live concert footage

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds

BRYANT'S EYE 43
Why Black deserved better from Britain's athletics selectors

SPORT

CRICKET 44-45
Smith bowls himself back into reckoning for England place

THURSDAY JULY 17 1997

Champion well-equipped to make strong defence of his title at Royal Troon

Lehman heads list of the Open minded

BY JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

TOM LEHMAN buttoned his rain jacket up to his chin and buried his head in its waterproof folds. His friendly face peered out from beneath a tweed cap. The eyes of the Open champion danced, in contrast to a predecessor of whom it was once said that he laughed, but not with his eyes. Lehman, at Troon on the eve of the 126th Open Championship, looked at home, at ease, in control and beloved.

As well he might. Lehman begins the defence of the title he won at Royal Lytham and St Annes with almost everything in apple pie order and swept along on a wave of support from the Scots that threatens to wash him down onto the beach and out into the murky waters of the Firth of Clyde. The Scots have not taken an American to their hearts in such unrestrained fashion since Tom Watson donned a tam-o'-shanter here in 1982 to mark his fourth Open victory in Scotland.

There is some symmetry in this because no one since Watson in 1983 has had as good a chance of repeating their victory in the Open as Lehman has now.

As Lehman demonstrated so clearly last week in winning the Gulfstream World Invitational, he is playing near his best, though the challenge presented by an inland, American-style course, such as Loch Lomond, is dramatically different to that of Royal Troon, a traditional links if ever there was one and one that this week has been dampened by rain squalls and caressed by a wind that capriciously alters its angle of attack from southwest to northwest.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP '97

TELEVISION: BBC1: Live 3.0-4.0pm. BBC2: Live 10.30am-12.30pm; 1.0-3.0pm; 4.0-7.30pm Highlights 9.0-9.40pm

In the past 12 months, Lehman, 38, has grown in confidence before one's eyes, adding both toughness and charm. This, in part, explains why he has achieved more in his year as Open champion and been deflected less by the minutiae and avarice than many predecessors. "The best thing about winning a big championship is it gives you a lot of confidence that you can win more big tournaments," Lehman said. "The confidence I gained from winning the Open has made me a better player. I have learnt about myself, working out where I can improve, where I stand in the world of golf.

"I feel very confident," Lehman continued. "My game is in good shape and the course is extremely good. If I play my best there are few who can beat me. If the wind continues to blow the same way, which I expect it will, it is going to take a lot of good, solid shotmaking to get round this course. I think those kind of things are to my advantage. I keep things under control pretty well. This is different golf. You can't get up and just bomb it all over the ranch."

One story reveals why Lehman has been taken to the hearts of the Scots. Last October he flew over to Troon for a quick visit and was having dinner in a local restaurant. The proprietor asked if a photograph could be taken. "Don't bother about that." Lehman replied. "I've got one back in my room. I'll drop it in."

"No, no," said the restaurateur. "I'll send someone up to get it."

"It's no trouble," Lehman said. That same evening a photograph, signed by Lehman, was duly delivered to the restaurant — by Lehman himself. Such generosity and humanity bore out what Jack Nicklaus said about his countryman. "Tom is a wonderful person and a wonderful player," Nicklaus said. "He has got a good balance between his golf game and his life. He is a very solid citizen."

The enticing prospect before the Open is that there are more good players at the peak of their form than at any time since the thrilling last round at Sandwich four years ago. Whetting the appetite even more is the fact that the examination will be as much of their technical skill as of their character and resolve. Not only must they cope with the difficulties of the most fearsome inward nine holes on the Open rota but, with luck, they will be buffeted by a wind and battered by rain showers. An Open should test all aspects.

The names one would expect are all there: Ernie Els, the US Open champion; Colin Montgomerie, who is in the form of his life and hoping to end his lamentable Open record; Greg Norman, who won his most recent tournament in the United States; Lehman; and Tiger Woods, who will assuredly be the golfer of the next decade. Do not overlook Nick Price, nor doubt the determination of Nick Faldo, who for the first time for a decade is not the leading home contender. There could be no better way for him to celebrate his fortieth birthday tomorrow, and his entry into formal middle age, than by winning a fourth Open on Sunday.

Eight years after Els appeared in his first Open as a 12½st teenager, he has matured into one of the most substantial presences in golf, 6ft 3in and 15st of good-natured determination and God-given talent. "When Ernie came along I thought he was the most talented one I'd seen for a long time and I still think he's as talented as anybody," Nicklaus said. "But Tiger, I mean, good gracious. At 21, he's got so much time. I think he is a very special young man with special values and dedication and if anybody's going to exceed my record in major championships, I cannot see anybody else on the horizon that could do that."

Woods has prepared thoroughly and is reported to be striking the ball as well as he was at Augusta in the spring, when he won the Masters, though he has had difficulty in reading the greens. This Open will test him fully and by Sunday one may see precisely what Lehman meant when he said of his young countryman: "Tiger is mentally very strong. I don't see a lot ruffling his feathers. People here are waiting to embrace him."

Nonetheless, victory by Woods over such a stellar field, while possible, is unlikely. Though he has won seven tournaments as a professional, Woods has not triumphed over such a course as this when competing against a field as strong.

"What would be really exciting would be for all the guys who are supposedly on good form to be still in good form on Sunday," Lehman said, a remark that every golf enthusiast would wholeheartedly endorse. "That doesn't happen very often. It would be really exciting to be part of it on Sunday."

Faldo's fears, page 43
Pavin in crisis, page 43

Lehman was in confident mood after he had practised on the eve of the Open at Troon yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

TODAY'S TEE-OFF TIMES

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated

07.15: * S Webster, A Cabrera (Arg), C Howell
07.25: T Purtzer (US), R Boxall, W Westner (SA)
07.35: P Blackmar (US), J Spence, S McCarron (US)
07.45: N Sato (Japan), P McGinley, B Watts (US)
07.55: R Goosen (SA), S Torrance, P Stankowski (US)
08.05: P Lonard (Aus), * C Watson, J Maggert (US)
08.15: L Westwood, S Stricker (US), G Norman (Aus)
08.25: P-U Johansson (Swe), S Mori (Japan), J Nicklaus (US)
08.35: C Montgomerie, T Watson (US), M McNulty (Zim)
08.45: R Russell, F Couples (US), E Romero (Arg)
08.55: A Coltart, M Calcavecchia (US), D Robertson
09.05: I Woosnam, R Allenby (Aus), P Stewart (US)
09.15: M O'Meara (US), S Maruyama (Japan), A Lyle
09.25: T Bjorn (Den), J Cook (US), S Ames (Tri)
09.35: J M Olazabal (Sp), T Kite (US), N Ozaki (Japan)
09.45: P Broadhurst, J Leonard (US), W Riley (Aus)
09.55: J van de Velde (Fr), L Roberts (US), P Senior (Aus)
10.05: D Love (US), S Ballesteros (Sp), H Meshiai (Japan)
10.15: I Baker-Finch (Aus), R Claydon, R Tway (US)
10.25: R McFarlane, W Andrade (US), M Roe
10.35: A Magee (US), P Curry, J Coceres (Arg)
10.45: [illegible] (US), S Bottomley, * Y Taylor (US)
10.55: A Sandywell, G Clark, B McGovern
11.05: J Remesy (Fr), J Philips, D Tapping
11.15: R Karlsson (Swe), T Gogele (Ger), C Perry (US)
11.25: J Kernohan (US), G Ghei (India), P Hinton
11.35: W Bladon, A Crerar, P Haugsrud (Nor)
11.45: * S Young, G Orr, D A Russell
11.56: D Hart (US), I Garrido (Sp), M Bradley (US)
12.06: C Strange (US), J Lomas, E Els (SA)
12.15: D Edlund (Swe), J Furyk (US), Y Kaneko (Japan)
12.25: D Clarke, S Jones (US), F Nobilo (NZ)
12.36: M James, M Wiebe (US), C Pavin (US)
12.45: C Rocca (It), L Janzen (US), M Long (NZ)
12.55: B Faxon (US), J Parnevik (Swe), R Green (Aus)
13.05: T Woods (US), B Langer (Ger), S Elkington (Aus)
13.15: P Harrington, M Brooks (US), C Parry (Aus)
13.25: M A Martin (Sp), T Lehman (US), V Singh (Fiji)
13.35: P Mitchell, C Stadler (US), D Frost (SA)
13.45: P Azinger (US), * D Olsson (Swe), G Player (SA)
13.55: N Faldo, T Tolles (US), N Price (Zim)
14.05: M A Jimenez (Sp), D Duval (US), G Turner (NZ)
14.15: P Hedblom (Swe), J Haas (US), Kim Jong-duck (S Kor)
14.25: A Cejka (Ger), P Mickelson (US), S Appleby (Aus)
14.35: R Damron (US), P Baker, R Davis (Aus)
14.45: P O'Malley (Aus), * B Howard, J Payne
14.55: G Brand Jr, G Day (US), C Mason
15.05: P Fulke (Swe), J Kelly, * J Miller
15.15: M Bradley, P Teravainen (US), S Dunlap (US)
15.25: M Miller, G Murphy, M Mamat (Sing)
15.35: L Batchelor, K Eriksson (Swe), C Clark
15.45: R Jacquelin (Fr), G Dodd (Aus), J Steenkamer (Holl)

** denotes amateur.*

Champagne on ice at Rover's return

Ten months ago, a heavily pregnant Tracey Capstick was left behind to look after the family when her husband, Jim, gave up his job to join the BT Global Challenge. He returned yesterday after sailing round the world. Before going to meet him, Tracey's feelings were mixed . . .

MY AGENDA was set before Jim left: to have a baby, to take the children, Stephen, 11, Christopher, eight, and Georgia, nine months, to New Zealand and Australia and to complete the last term of my college course with a good enough grade to take my place in the history department of Royal Holloway and Bedford University this September. Last week I came up for air, only to be submerged again under the tide of moving house.

The imminent arrival of *Ocean Rover* and Jim's return has brought some trepidation. After experiences of his arrival in Wellington and Sydney, I am only too aware that after our initial reunion, wife and family will be sidelined in favour of beer and seamen's camaraderie. On both previous occasions, after a long and tiring night, the children and I returned to our hotel without our prize, who joined us some hours later, somewhat worse for wear. I felt more anger than I realised was possible then, but such is the nature of this beast, the BT Global Challenge.

As many women whose husbands work away for long periods will testify, there is a liberation in being left the day-to-day business of raising a family under this type of separation. Our family life has changed: the primary relationships are now between myself and the children. I make the decisions. When the television broke down it gave me great pleasure not to have it mended for three weeks and I only did it then because Jim, who is a television addict, was due home from Cape Town.

I have gained the greatest respect for Stephen and Christopher. We travelled for almost four months following the Challenge, often in difficult circumstances. I watched them cope in a variety of situations far from home, where I was the only security they had. When I look back on the Challenge there will be little reference to yachts racing around the world against prevailing winds. My children's achievements will probably take priority.

In some respects we have all paid a high price, both financially and emotionally. The financial cost has been much greater than anticipated, including the additional costs of Jim's flights home almost as soon as he got into port, but at the time his need to return was paramount.

With support from family and friends, I held fast at the helm and enjoyed being captain of my own ship. It will be difficult to relinquish control.

In many ways, Jim and I have both had to become insular to survive. He left us and bears the guilt; I held the fort and excelled at the task. Like many other wives and girlfriends, I have found a new way of life. I was aware this might happen. Now I hope for infinite patience until we are back on line as a family.

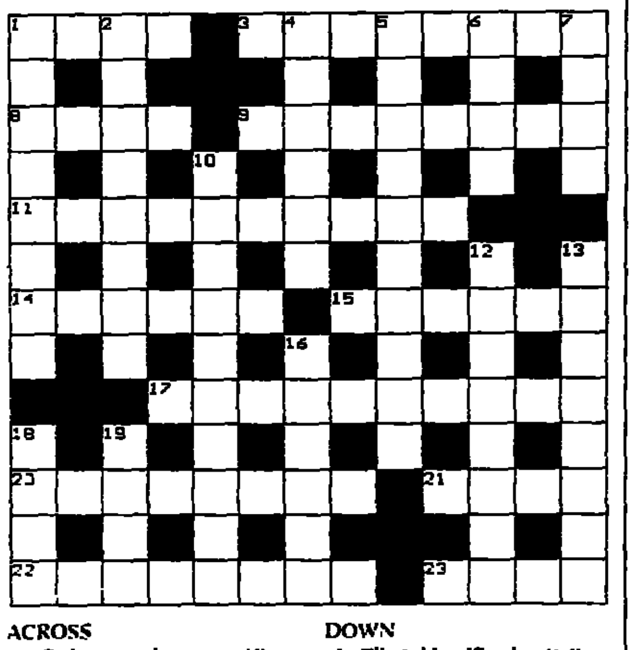
I should feel great pride in my husband's achievements, especially as I am fully aware of his personal suffering during the race, but last week I watched my son play his saxophone in a school concert. I knew he was petrified and really did not want to do it, but he performed well and I know he did it for me and his music teacher, not for his own satisfaction. I was overcome with intense pride and I hope for the same intensity of emotion over the next couple of days. To date, this pride has sadly eluded me.

The question is: would I let Jim do it again? Yes, provided I don't have to foot the bill. And don't bore me with the details — just ring me when you get in.

Fleet returns, page 46

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1148 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS
1 String: wood measure (4)
3 Mine host (8)
8 Plucked instrument: pipe sealant (4)
9 Raw veg. starter (8)
11 Tacit permission (10)
14 Celtic language (6)
15 Give sharp blow: sound (hour) (6)
17 China expert (10)
20 Closing scene, chapter (8)
21 Advise of danger (4)
22 Urgent: ironing (8)
23 Terrorist group (4)

DOWN
1 Pilot's identification (4,4)
2 (Treaty) approved (8)
4 Overseas (6)
5 Devotion (to) (10)
6 Solemn declaration (4)
7 Evening twilight (4)
10 Apt, well-expressed (10)
12 Make less harsh (8)
13 One on guard (8)
16 Duke of Bedford seat (6)
18 Ooze (4)
19 A tree: long (4)

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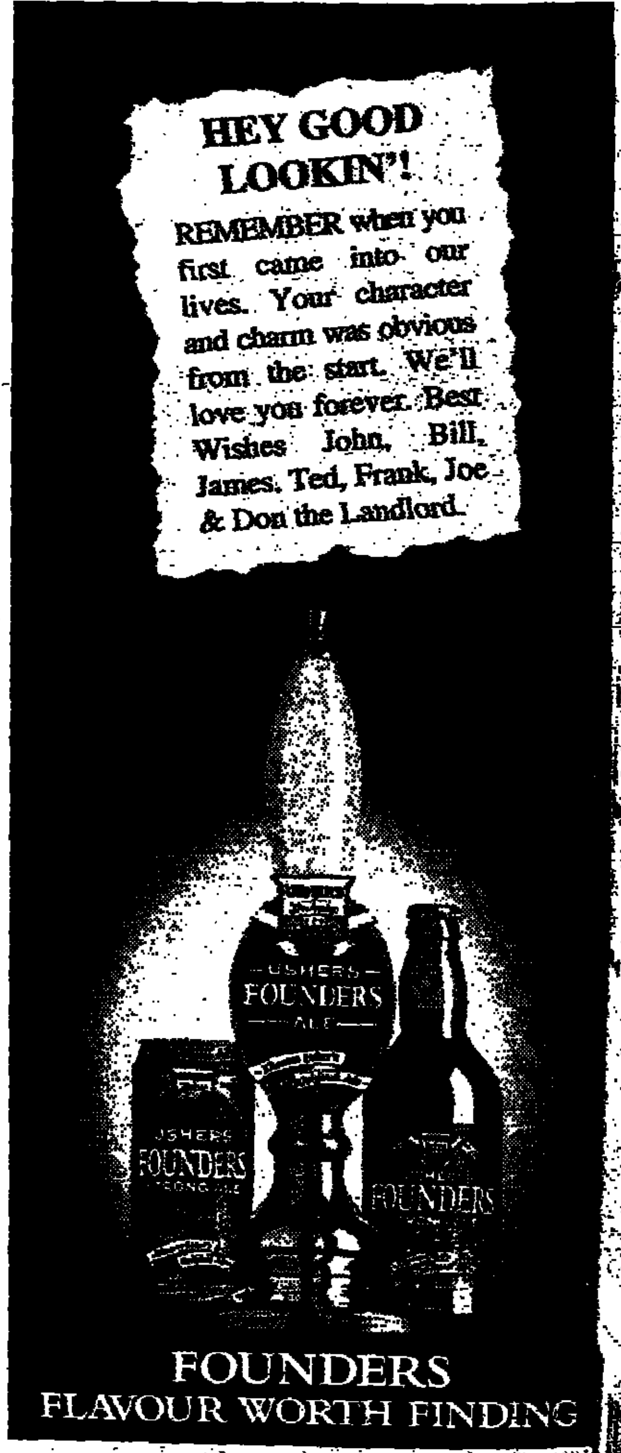
THE RUNNER-UP will receive a return ticket to anywhere on British Midland's domestic network. British Midland offers an extensive range of destinations throughout the UK as well as Europe and has now added daily flights from Heathrow to Copenhagen, Oslo, Gothenburg, Cologne and Rome. With over 1,500 flights a week to 20 European destinations British Midland is the Airline for Europe.

All flights are subject to availability

Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address ____________________

SOLUTION TO NO 1147
ACROSS: 1 Database 5 Scut 9 Bromide 10 Zaire 11 Spat 12 Realise 14 Rocket 16 Agreed 19 Gazette 21 Sawn 24 Agnes 25 Abridge 26 Tier 27 Black Rod
DOWN: 1 Debt 2 Troop 3 Brittle 4 Sherry 6 Cuisine 7 The bends 8 Ezra 13 Fragrant 15 Cézanne 17 Gastric 18 Recall 20 Task 22 Wader 23 Mend


HEY GOOD LOOKIN'!
REMEMBER when you first came into our lives. Your character and charm was obvious from the start. We'll love you forever. Best Wishes John, Bill, James, Ted, Frank, Joe & Don the Landlord.
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FLAVOUR WORTH FINDING

نسخة أمينة للأصل